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FLASHBACK *published by the*
WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Vol. XIII, No. 1 | W. J. Lemke, editor | February, 1963

WASHINGTON COUNTY'S NOTED MASON

JAMES HAYDEN VAN HOOSE

in Masonic regalia, as Master of Washington Lodge No. 1. He walked from Middle Fork to Mt. Comfort in 1852 to attend Ozark Institute. Was three times mayor of Fayetteville.

(Photo courtesy of W. E. R. Crawford, Palm Springs, Calif.)

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Vol. XIII No. 1 W.J.Lemke, editor February 1963

O. E. WILLIAMS HEADS WCHS FOR 1963

The annual meeting of the Washington County Historical Society was held Jan. 22 at Ferguson's Cafeteria in Fayetteville. Last year's officers gave their reports. Officers for 1963 were elected, as follows: O. E. Williams, president; Roy A. Scott, vice-president and treasurer; Deane G. Carter, secretary; W. J. Lemke, editor of publications. New members of the Board of Directors are Miss Bernice Karnes, Mrs. Donald Parks and Deane G. Carter. Hold-over members of the Board are Tom C. Feathers, O. E. Williams, Roy A. Scott, W. J. Lemke, Chas. W. Stewart Jr., Miss Grace Albright, L. W. Searcy, Gus Eidson and John A. Reed.

Discussion at the meeting included plans for the centennial observance of the battle of Fayetteville (April 18, 1963), a historical marker at the Dutch Mills post office (Old Hermannsburg), a 1963 "Distinguished Citizen" citation, a campaign to bring our membership up to 500, and other matters pertaining to the welfare of the Society. President Williams said he would name committees for these and other projects. Several visitors and out-of-town members were introduced. Following is the

Treasurer's Report for 1962

Income			
	Dues and sale of books		$2,001.59
Expenditures			
	Supplies (McRoy-McNair)	$306.65	
	" (Press Pubg Co.). . . .	370. 68	
	Pictures (Shofner).	725.78	
	" (H.C.Green).	37.10	
	" (Sun Engrg Co.)	6.51	
	Office rent	180.00	
	City sanitation chrge	12.00	
	Miscellaneous	66.84	
	Postage	256.25	1,961.81
		Balance. . . .	$39.58

Roy A Scott, treasurer

Miss Karnes, who is in charge of our genealogical activities distributed sample copies of the Arkansas Family Historian and announced that the Arkansas Genealogical Society now has 317 members. A fourth issue of its magazine will appear shortly.

President Tom Feathers presided over the annual meeting. He has served the Society in various capacities for 12 years -- as secretary and as president. He continues on the Board of Directors.

"DEAR PARENTS"

The Civil War letters of the Shibley brothers of VanBuren

---1862---

Our Society, as part of its contribution to the observance of the Civil War Centennial, has just published the letters that two brothers Wm. H. H. and John S. Shibley, Confederate soldiers, wrote to their parents in Van Buren, Ark. The letters were compiled and edited by Ruie Ann Smith Park of Van Buren, a long-time friend of the Shibley family. "Dear Parents" sells for $2 and may be ordered from our WCHS secretary, Deane G.Carter, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark. Only 200 copies have been printed. To whet your interest, here are some quotations from the Shibley letters.

---1862---

Camp McIntosh, Aug.21, 1862 -- We are encamped in Whitfield's winter quarters 2 miles north of Cane Hill and 12 or 15 southwest of Fayetteville. We are excellently situated; the encampment is similar to Greer's quarters on Frog Bayou, rather better I think. There is about 50 tolerably snug cabins, so that there is about two messes in a house. On our march we broke one of our waggons and had to leave our tents on Lee's Creek (Southerlands). They have not yet arrived, and last night we had a nice rain which brought our cabins in very nicely or rather us into our cabins.

Camp Cunningham, Aug. 28, 1862 -- We write to ask you to make John a knapsack. If you can handly, if not make a haversack. You need have no regard to color or kind of cloth, just so it is strong. Gen. Hindman has been here..He left yesterday for Gen.Raines quarters. Great discipline prevails in the army. Card playing has been suppressed by orderof Col. George.

Camp near Elk Horn, Sept. 12, 1862 -- We are encamped near the battlefield of Elk Horn, in fact, we are in the very valley and spot that the Federals expected to lead the Confederates into and annihilate them. Their fortifications are on every side, all in gun shot of our tents. I have been out to look at some of them and it is surprising to see the wickedness of the human heart. If the Confederate army had come in as they had designed, it would have been one of the most disastrous battles of modern time.

Elm Springs, Ark., Sept. 20, 1862 -- Five days ago I was left here with Marion West who was sick with fever. He soon began to grow better and is now well. In the meantime I have been unwell with dysentery but am compelled to remain at this place to wait on a man who has been very sick. His name is Thurman, from our company. The unarmed men are at this place, about 3,000. We are staying with a pious family of the Methodist order named Saunders. If any of you are passing, enquire at the tavern for me.

Camp McCulloch, Oct. 1, 1862 -- There was two men executed yesterday. One was a Federal that was taken at Lone Jack and after his capture enlisted in a Regt and then deserted. The other was charged with desertion and horse stealing. They expatiated their crimes yesterday in the presence of all the troops at this place. What a horrible sight. My heart sickened at it.

---1862---

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HISTORY OF MASONRY IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

by O. E. Williams

(This is the second installment of Mr. Williams' History of Masonry in Washington County. The third installment will appear in the next issue of FLASHBACK. Our county's most noted Mason in the old days was James Hayden VanHoose, whose picture in Masonic regalia appears on the cover of this issue. The picture was loaned to us by Bill Crawford of Palm Springs, California, who is a VanHoose descendant. The pictures of the two charters of the Cincinnati lodge are by courtesy of Reed Thomason, who brought the charters to our office so that we could photograph them. -- WJL)

Cincinnati Lodge No. 102

On Nov. 8, 1856, Cincinnati Lodge No. 102 was chartered. D. B. Mason was Worshipful Master; M.A.Alberty was Senior Warden; and W.H.Rhea was Junior Warden. During the War between the States, the above charter disappeared, and on May 3, 1866, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas issued another charter No. 102, with George Gibson as Master, R. May Senior Warden, J. R. Rutherford Junior Warden, and the following charter members:

George gibson
R. May
J. R. Rutherford
D. B. Mason
M. Alberty
W. H. Rhea
J. R. Parks
C. J. Severs

In 1887 the lodge building burned, also the charter of 1866. The Grand Lodge then issued a third charter to Cincinnati Lodge No. 102. About 55 years ago, some one up north sent Cincinnati Lodge the 1856 charter, which had been lost over 40 years. At this time (1963) there are two charters hanging in the Cincinnati lodge hall. They are shown on the next page.

Members in 1872 were:

Mose Alberty
Joseph Abrove (?)
John Burkett
James F. Bates
J. M. Bell
John M. Cox
Richard Dickson
J. W. Ellis
A. E. Edmiston
George Eubanks
George Gibson
L. B. Gibson
B. W. Garden
Isham Harrell
Thomas M. Jenkins
Jesse Jordan
J. A. Jordan
E. R. Knowles
Thomas Lynch
J. M. Lacy
D. B. Mason
Rynell May
Wm. A. Musgrove
H. I. Martier (?)
O. W. Moss
D. S. Plemmons
S. K. Powell
J. C. C. Patton
Wm. H. Rhea
A. B. Rich
John Rhea
T. W. Rainwater
C. J. Severs
Columbus Seay

(1872 members cont.)

A. G. Stark
H. Shields
J. D. Thomason
R. A. Williams
W. S. Walker
B. D. Wilson
J. S. West
Salun White
Pleasant West
John Young

(Proceedings 1872, p. 162)

Members in 1880 were:

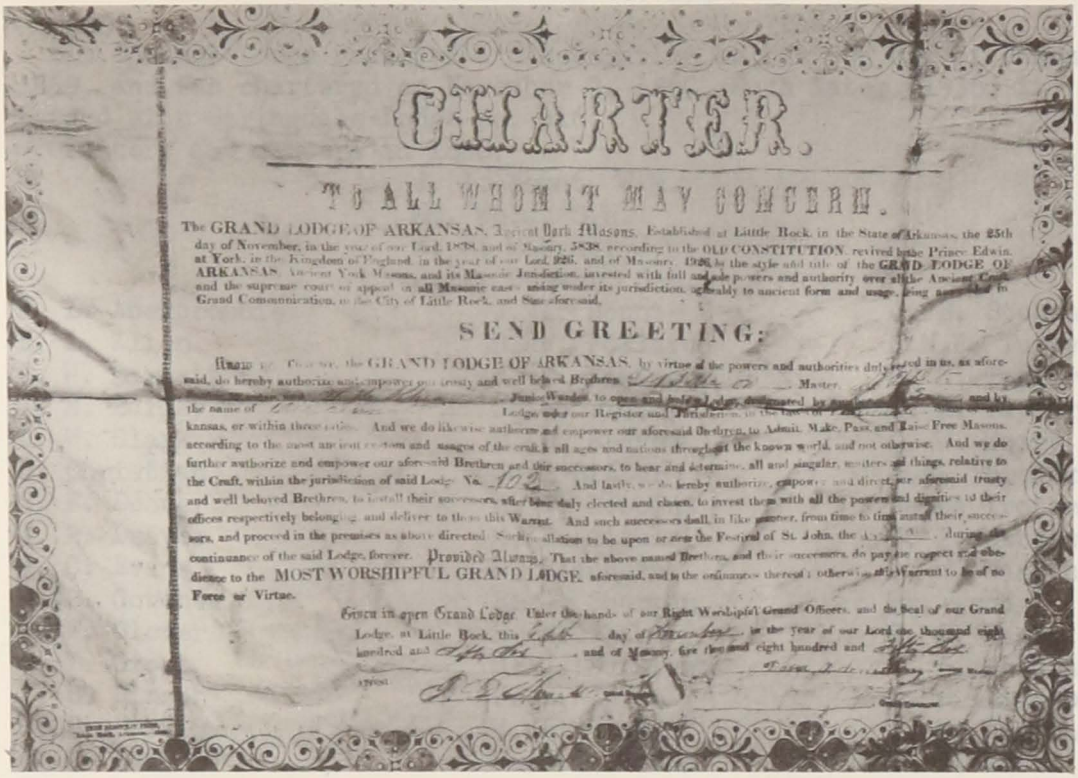
B. W. Alberty
J. F. Bates
J. M. Bell
John Burnett
Geo. V. Burkett
Wm. R. Brown
John M. Cox
Irby Cannon
C. C. Clayton
J. D. Dudley
J. W. Ellis
Geo. Gibson
Isham Harrell
J. P. Harris
Wm. Harnage
Thos. A. Hilton
John Kirk
R. May
D. B. Mason
Isaac Morris
D. S. Plemmons
S. D. Powell
S. H. Peden
W. D. Parks
Wm. Partain
Columbus Seay
C.J. Seneus Shields
P. F. Smith
H. S. Spiney
John D. Thomason
Wm. H. Thomason
R. A. Williams
Wm. P. West
Pleasant West
B. D. Wilson
James S. West
S. White
T. C. Welch
James Woodlee
Morris Wright
Lou W. Williams
John Young

(Proceedings 1880, pp. 133-134)

Members in 1884 were:

T. B. Alberty
John Alberty
B. W. Alberty
J. F. Bates
John Bass
John Burnett
G. W. Burkett
John Burton
Irby Cannon
W. J. Cheney
C. C. Clayton
J. M. Cox
H. C. Crittenden
J. G. Dudley
J. W. Ellis
R. Garrett
Geo. Gibson
Isham Harrell
J. P. Harris
T. A. Hilton
W. W. Hulse
W. N. Jackson
John Kirk
D. B. Mason
G. W. Mason
R. May
A. L. Martin
J. C. Mitchell
Isaac Morris
W. D. Parks
Wm. Partain
S. H. Peden
Frank Pool
S. D. Powell
C. C. Seay
S. J. Severs
H. Shields
J. B. Smith
J. P. Smith
P. T. Smith
H. S. Spiney
Thos. Tennant
J. D. Thomason
W. H. Thomason
J. W. Webster
T. C. Welch
P. West
S. White
R. A. Williams
J.S.W. Williams
D. B. Wilson
W. N. Yates
John Young

The present Master of Cincinnati Lodge is Cage D. Grissom and the present secretary is W. S. Gilbreath.



CHARTER.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

The GRAND LODGE OF ARKANSAS, Ancient York Masons, Established at Little Rock, in the State of Arkansas, the 25th day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1838, and of Masonry, 5838, according to the OLD CONSTITUTION, revived by the Prince Edwin, at York, in the Kingdom of England, in the year of our Lord, 926, and of Masonry, 4926, by the style and title of the GRAND LODGE OF ARKANSAS, Ancient York Masons, and its Masonic Jurisdiction, invested with full and sole powers and authority over all the Ancient Craft, and the supreme court of appeal in all Masonic cases arising under its jurisdiction, agreeably to ancient form and usage, being assembled in Grand Communication, in the City of Little Rock, and State aforesaid.

SEND GREETING:

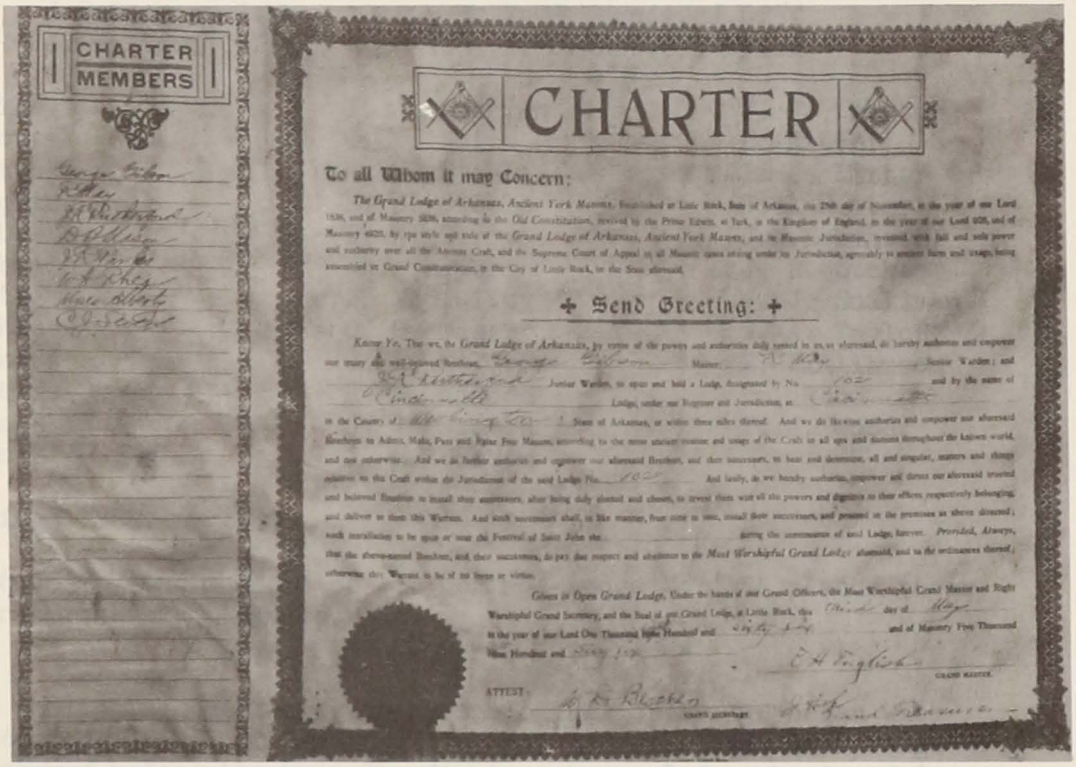
Know ye, That we, the GRAND LODGE OF ARKANSAS, by virtue of the powers and authorities duly vested in us, as aforesaid, do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and well beloved Brethren [illegible] Master, [illegible] Senior Warden, [illegible] Junior Warden, to open and hold a Lodge, designated by No. [illegible] and by the name of [illegible] Lodge, under our Register and Jurisdiction, at [illegible] in the County of [illegible] State of Arkansas, or within three miles thereof. And we do likewise authorize and empower our aforesaid Brethren to Admit, Make, Pass and Raise Free Masons, according to the most ancient custom and usages of the craft in all ages and nations throughout the known world, and not otherwise. And we do further authorize and empower our aforesaid Brethren and their successors, to hear and determine, all and singular, matters and things, relative to the Craft, within the jurisdiction of said Lodge No. 102. And lastly, we do hereby authorize, empower and direct our aforesaid trusty and well beloved Brethren, to install their successors, after being duly elected and chosen, to invest them with all the powers and dignities to their offices respectively belonging, and deliver to them this Warrant. And such successors shall, in like manner, from time to time, install their successors, and proceed in the premises as above directed. Such installation to be upon or near the Festival of St. John, the [illegible] during the continuance of the said Lodge, forever. Provided Always, That the above named Brethren, and their successors, do pay due respect and obedience to the MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, aforesaid, and to the ordinances thereof; otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force or Virtue.

Given in open Grand Lodge, Under the hands of our Right Worshipful Grand Officers, and the Seal of our Grand Lodge, at Little Rock, this [illegible] day of [illegible] in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and [illegible] and of Masonry five thousand eight hundred and [illegible]

ATTEST [illegible]

Charter of 1856

This charter disappeared during the War Between the States. It was returned some 40 years later and now hangs in the lodge hall at Cincinnati.



CHARTER MEMBERS

[illegible]

CHARTER

To all Whom it may Concern:

The Grand Lodge of Arkansas, Ancient York Masons, Established at Little Rock, State of Arkansas, the 25th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1838, and of Masonry 5838, according to the Old Constitution, revived by the Prince Edwin, at York, in the Kingdom of England, in the year of our Lord 926, and of Masonry 4926, by the style and title of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, Ancient York Masons, and its Masonic Jurisdiction, invested with full and sole power and authority over all the Ancient Craft, and the Supreme Court of Appeal in all Masonic cases arising under its Jurisdiction, agreeably to ancient form and usage, being assembled in Grand Communication, in the City of Little Rock, in the State aforesaid.

✣ Send Greeting: ✣

Know Ye, That we, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, by virtue of the powers and authorities duly vested in us, as aforesaid, do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and well-beloved Brethren, [illegible] Master; [illegible] Senior Warden; and [illegible] Junior Warden, to open and hold a Lodge, designated by No. 102 and by the name of [illegible] Lodge, under our Register and Jurisdiction, at [illegible] in the County of [illegible] State of Arkansas, or within three miles thereof. And we do likewise authorize and empower our aforesaid Brethren to Admit, Make, Pass and Raise Free Masons, according to the most ancient custom and usage of the Craft in all ages and nations throughout the known world, and not otherwise. And we do further authorize and empower our aforesaid Brethren, and their successors, to hear and determine, all and singular, matters and things relative to the Craft within the Jurisdiction of the said Lodge No. 102. And lastly, do we hereby authorize, empower and direct our aforesaid trusted and beloved Brethren to install their successors, after being duly elected and chosen, to invest them with all the powers and dignities to their offices respectively belonging, and deliver to them this Warrant. And such successors shall, in like manner, from time to time, install their successors, and proceed in the premises as above directed; such installation to be upon or near the Festival of Saint John the [illegible] during the continuance of said Lodge, forever. Provided, Always, that the aforenamed Brethren, and their successors, do pay due respect and obedience to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge aforesaid, and to the ordinances thereof; otherwise this Warrant to be of no force or virtue.

Given in Open Grand Lodge, Under the hands of our Grand Officers, the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, and the Seal of our Grand Lodge, at Little Rock, this [illegible] day of [illegible] in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and [illegible] and of Masonry Five Thousand Nine Hundred and [illegible]

E. H. English
GRAND MASTER.

ATTEST: [illegible]
GRAND SECRETARY.

Charter of 1866

Issued by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas to replace the charter that had been lost. It carries the names of the original charter members.

ELM SPRINGS NO. 154

Elm Springs Lodge received a dispensation on the 5th day of January, 1859, and was chartered on November 7, 1860. Much later (1936) it merged with Springdale Lodge No. 316.

Officers and members in 1880:

J. I. Mount, W.M.
Wm. Wood, S.W.
J. H. Wasson, J.W.
B. F. Deaver, Sec.

J. L. Abercrombie	J. I. Mount	J. B. Stokes
E. L. Allen	B. F. Pollard	J.N.P. Turty
G. W. Barnett	J. M. Robinson	G. W. Taylor
J. M. Barley	James Ritter	G. R. Taylor
C. W. Clark	D. D. Reaves	G. W. Terry
D. Christian	Joel Ritter	W.N. Threadkill
B. F. Deaver	R. G. Robbins	James Trotter
J. P. Deaver	M. D. Steele	T. F. Webster
J. C. Evans	N. Saunders	A. W. Wasson
N. P. Gotcher	E. J. Sherman	Wm. Wood
H. W. Glover	H. M. Sharp	G. O. Wager
S. T. Grout	W. J. Sullivan	J. A. Wolden
J. B. Hinson	J. M. Sharp	F. Williamson
P. B. Haskins	W. L. Stokes	J. H. Wasson
H. W. Late	Samuel Stokes	T. J. Wood
H. M. McWaters	J. A. Smith	

(Proceedings of 1880, pp 147-148)

Officers and members in 1884:

J.H.Wasson, W.M.
Wm. Wood, S.W.
J.B.Stokes, J.W.
J. W. Smith, Treas.
T.J.Sherman, Sec.
A. W. Wasson, S.D.
T. J. Woods, J.D.
D. D. Reeves, Tyler

J. M. Bailey	T. J. Sherman	T. F. Webster
H. W. Glover	J. W. Smith	L. Ritter
M. P. Gotcher	M. V. Steele	James Ritter
P. B. Hopkins	M. D. Steele	Joel Ritter
T. J. Hubbert	T. W. Terry	J.M.Robinson
P. R. Johnson	Wm. Thayer	J. B. Stokes
H. W. Late	J. K. Twitty	W. J. Sullivan
H. M. McWaters	G. O. Wager	G. A. Taylor
D. D. Reaves	J. A. Waldren	F. Williamson
R. B. Robins	A. W. Wasson	Wm. Wood
K. Saunders	J. T. Wasson	T. J. Wood
H. M. Sharp	J. H. Wasson	

(Proceedings 1884, p. 223)

In 1936, fifty-one members of Elm Springs Lodge No. 154 placed their dimits in Springdale Lodge No. 316.

--- O ---

We are publishing the lodges in chronological order. We began with Washington Lodge No. 1 of Fayetteville. All lodges up to Elm Springs were chartered before the War. The first post-war lodge chartered in Washington County was Viney Grove Lodge No. 265.

VINEY GROVE NO. 265

Viney Grove Lodge No. 265 (post office, Rhea, Arkansas), received a dispensation November 3, 1860 but was not chartered until November 8, 1871. The Lodge gave up its charter in 1928.

Officers and members in 1880:

J. D. West, W.M.
J. E. Mock, S.W.
J. C. Pyeatt, J.W.
W. E. Zellner, Sec.

S. G. Allen
R. H. Blackburn
J. J. Baggett
J. N. Carnahan
J. C. Devin
D. H. Ellis
J. B. Gillis
W. G. D. Hinds
Jesse Jordan
J. A. Jordan
B. Keys
J. E. Loke
John Mock
J. E. Mock
John Matier
John Null
J. E. Norwood
S. P. Pittman
J. C. Pyeatt
Hugh Rogers
Joseph Schafer
Wm. Shofer (?)
William Shannon
A. J. Webb
A. C. West
Ed West
J. D. West
Thomas Williams
W. E. Zellner

(Proceedings 1880, p. 175)

Officers and members 1884:

W. E. Zellner, W.M.
R. H. Blackburn, S.W.
Geo. Edmiston, J.W.
J. B. Gillis, Treas.
T. L. Harvey, Sec.
W.C.Kuykendall, S.D.
R.S.Staples, S.S.
W. B. Froker, J.S.
Will Shofer, Tyler

Members in 1884:

S. Allen
J. J. Baggett
J. C. Bain
R. H. Blackburn
A. Borden
John Buchanan
John Cole
L. Crawford
J. C. Devin Sr.
J. C. Devin Jr.
Geo. Edmiston
D. H. Ellis
W. B. Fraker
J. B. Gillis
H. D. Gorham
T. L. Harvey
Jess Jordan
J. A. Jordan
W.C.Kuykendall
J. E. Loke
John Matier
John Mock
J. E. Mock
J. E. Norwood
John Neill
T. J. Patton
J. C. Pyeatt
J. H. Rickett
Hugh Rogers
S. E. Rogers
W. D. Rogers
J. Shofer

(Proceedings of 1884, page 280)

Fred Kantz of our Society has in his possession the following dimit which his father received from Viney Grove Lodge 265, on Feb. 21, 1872:

"I hereby certify that at a stated meeting of Viney Grove Lodge 265, held on the 21st day of February, A.D. 1872, A.L. 5872, Brother Luke L. Kantz, by consent of said Lodge, withdrew his membership from the same; being at the time a worthy Master Mason in good standing and having paid all dues assessed against him. By order of said Lodge.

D. W. Woodruff, Secy."

WASHINGTON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT RECORD "A"

The first entry in Circuit Court Record "A" is dated March 1829. The matter of roads was discussed, including a road to "McInturff's Mill". Roads were also the chief topic in the vacation session of the Court on May 28, 1829 and at the July term. At the latter term a road report was read, the matter of a road overseer was brought up, and the matter of hands to work the roads was discussed. Roads continued to be the chief matter of business in the early Circuit Court sessions.

At the December 1832 term, the record shows an affidavit of Christopher Kirby as to his service in the Revolutionary War.

The Circuit Court in the early days handled probate matters, as will be seen by the following record of 1837:

At a court of probate, begun and held in the Court House in the town of Fayetteville in the County of Washington on the 2nd Monday in October,it being the ninth day of said month in the year of our Lord 1837, before John Cureton, Judge of Probate.

On motion it is ordered that Gerral(Jarred?) Trammell and Nancy Fort, administrator and administratric of the estate of Elias Fort dec'd be allowed to hire out the Negro belonging to said estate, for 3 months.

And now on this day came Lewis Evans, administrator of estate of Robert Brady dec'd, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the said administrator has no settlement to make, it is therefore considered by the Court that said Lewis Evans be discharged from making any further settlement.

And now on this day came John B. Smith, administrator of the estate of Patsy Brotherton dec'd, it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the said administrator has no settlement to make,said Smith be discharged from making his settlement until next annual settlement.

James Reed was appointed administrator of the Estate of Benjamin Reed dec'd, who give bond and security according to law.

And now on this day comes Rebecca Smith, administrator of the estate of John Smith dec'd, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that there is wild Hogs belonging to said Estate, it is therefore considered by the Court that said Administrator sell the same.

John Cureton, Judge

At the April 1837 term of Court, Alexander Williams, administrator of the estate of John Williams dec'd, made his report. The administrator was charged with $1242.16, which includes "hire of Negro boy" for the following years:

1832 -	$ 30
1833 -	47
1834 -	60
1835 -	60
1837 -	120

Credits amounted to $720.19, which the Commissioners (B.H.Smithson and David Walker) deducted, leaving $521.96. The administrator is discharged from making any further settlement.

At this term of court Samuel Smoot sued John Ish and George Morrow, executors of an unnamed estate. A jury was drawn, consisting of

William McGarrah	Jacob Smith
M. D. Gay	John Kendrick
James Lynch	John Musgrove
Robert Burney	John -------
G. L. Harrison	Isham Kiser
John West	William Kiser

after which the plaintiff took a non-suit.

There were settlements by various administrators of estates, including the following:

John R. Pyeatt, adm of estate of Andrew Pyeatt decd

Garrard Lane, adm of estate of Ransom Lane

L. C. Pleasants vs Willis S. Wallace, administrator of estate of M. H. W. Mahon decd.

Bolin Smith vs James C. Bell, adm of estate of John Wilson decd.

John Miller vs same estate

Joseph McMurray, adm of estate of James Clark decd. Amount of estate $770.46. Widow's share $234.23. Administrator's fee $45.

G. B. Stagner vs John D. Moore, adm of estate of Jno. Coulter decd.

Sarah Nail, administratrix of the estate of Andrew Nail dec'd, was sued for her late husband's debts, by the following:

Nathan W. Tuttle - -	$10	Wm. Skelton - - - -	$8.75
Robert Hubbard - - -	11.37	L. C. Pleasants - -	5.
Wm. T. Larremore - -	5.	Joseph Dickson- - -	1.68
Alvin Woods - - - -	2.79	J.H& G.P.Wallace- -	7.12
Joseph M. Gable- - -	2.50	Nathan Caughman - -	8.
		Samuel Whitehead- -	2.

Other claims against administrators were the following:
Joseph Stout vs Polly Stout, adm of estate of John G. Stout
Wm. Embree vs John S. Blair, adm of estate of Saml O. Harris decd
Joseph Stout vs Rebecca Smith, adm of estate of John Smith decd
Moses Stout vs John W. Onstot, adm of estate of James M. Sweeney decd
Isaac Price vs James Anderson, adm of estate of Thos.J.Anderson decd.

This was a jury trial. The jury: Jacob Smith, Wm. Kizer, Daniel Vaughan, Alonzo Maltby, John Wagnon, James McKinney, Morris Wright, Charles Washington, Dennis Callahan, John West, M.B.Gay, James Dickson. The jury awarded the plaintiff $20.50.

(Editor's note: This jury contains the names of some prominent Washington County pioneers. Also,it includes two names that have been completely forgotten by historians: Maltby and Gay.)

Charles McClellan was appointed adm of the estateof Wm. P. McCorry.

At the October 12, 1837 session of Circuit Court, Wm. E. Woodruff, little Rock newspaper publisher, put in claims against John C. Moore, adm of the estate of James Coulter decd and Polly Stout, adm of the estate of John G. Stout decd -- probably for unpaid subscriptions to the Arkansas Gazette. Other causes heard at this term were:

Wm. McK. Ball, adm of the estate of John E. Turner decd vs Willis S Wallace, adm of estate of M. H. W. Mahon decd.

B. H. Smithson vs John S. Blair, adm of estate of S.O.Harris decd. Award $116.50.

T. B. Kelly vs John S. Blair, adm of est of S.O.Harris (dismissed). James S. Fulton vs same. Award $12.33.

P. H. Trout vs John W. Onstot, adm of est of J.M.Sweeney decd.

Wm McGarrah & Mathew Hubbard vs James Cartwright & John Cartwright, adms of estate of Samuel Cartwright decd.

John B Walker vs John D. Moore, adm of estate of James Coulter decd.

Bryan H. Smithson & Sebron g. Sneed apptd Commissioners to settle account of Thomas W. Norwood, adm of estate of Wm. F. Walker decd.

An unusual entry in the Circuit Court Record of October 1837 is this: "On motion it is ordered by the Court to be certified that Royal T. Wheeler, Esquire, is a man of honest and good moral character and that he is 21 years of age."

John Cureton, Judge

(Editor's note: Royal T. Wheeler was a brother-in-law of Judge David Walker. He was about to leave for Texas and probably figured a recommendation from the Washington County Circuit Court could do him no harm. He became Supreme Court Justice in Texas and made a brilliant record on the bench. -- WJL)

THE STEVENSON PIPPIN

I enjoyed the article in the September issue of FLASHBACK that told of apple varieties that originated inWashington County. I want to tell you of a fine, very large fall apple that originated in Crawford County. It was called the "Stevenson Pippin."

James Graham Stevenson was a large grower of fruits -- pears, plums, etc. -- but mostly many acres of apples. He did a great deal of grafting and experimenting. In the fall when the apples were being picked, he paid his namesake grandson 25 cents a day to walk around the piles of apples and pick out the faulty ones as they were poured out. I have heard him say he would not have a peck of bad ones at the end of the day and these were mostly bird-pecked. This was in the days before spray. The apples were stored in large apple houses back of the home. When boats came up the river and discharged their cargo at Van Buren and Fort Smith, they would load up with these apples to sell at towns down the river. Stark Nurseries handled this Stevenson Pippin until newer varieties took its place.

This was "before the war", as Squire Stevenson died in December 1865. James G. Stevenson IV was 17 when his grandfather died.

-- Nell S. Garner, Van Buren, Ark.

SECRETARY'S NEWSLETTER

Our Secretary, Deane G. Carter, has sent out the first issue of his quarterly Newsletter that will alternate with FLASHBACK. The second number of the secretary's Newsletter will appear in April. The Newsletter carries items of interest to our members and announcements of projects and meetings.

TWENTY-THREE DOCTORS FROM AN OZARKS VILLAGE

Mrs. Etta McColloch, 410 Rogers St., Clarksville, Ark., is working on an article for FLASHBACK, on the many doctors who were born or reared on Cane Hill in our county. She sent us a check list containing the names of 23 doctors (M.D.s), as follows:

1. Dr. W. M. Yates, born on Cane Hill 1851. Grandson of Thos.Garvin
2. Dr. Samuel McColloch, Cane Hill's first doctor
3. Dr. T. W. Blackburn who spent most of his life on Cane Hill
4. Dr. Henry Brewster, born on Cove Creek 1861
5. Dr. Henry Moore, born on Cane Hill
6. Dr. G.A.McBride, reared on Cane Hill. Gr-grandson of Thos.Garvin
7. Dr. T. E. Hodges, grandson of John and Maria Cox Morrow
8. Dr. John Allison, born on Cane Hill
9. Dr. Tom Allison, born on Cane Hill
10. Dr. Jim Mitchell, born on Cane Hill
11. Dr. J. L. Bean, born on Cane Hill
12. Dr. A. S. Hagood, born on Cane Hill
13. Dr. L. T. Jackson, grew up on Cane Hill
14. Dr. Harris Moore, son of Dr. Henry Moore
15. Dr. J. A. Morrow, grandson of John and Maria Cox Morrow
16. Dr. Guy Hodges, son of Dr. Tom Hodges. Grew up on Cane Hill
17. Dr. John M. Lacy
18. Dr. Fount Richardson
19. Dr. W. F. Shearer
20. Dr. Milburn Carrithers, born on Cane Hill 1907
21. Dr. W. B. Welch
22. Dr. Will Lunsford, about 1930
23. Dr. ----- Watson. His parents were Len and Bird Kirby Watson, both born and reared on Cane Hill.

If any of our readers have any biographical information or personal memories of these men, please let us hear from you. Also, we need pictures of many of them, especially McColloch, McBride, T. E. and Guy Hodges, John and Tom Allison, Mitchell, Hagood, Jackson, Shearer, Lunsford and Watson. We will return any original photos sent us after we have had them copied.

In addition to the copy and photos of the old Cane Hill physicians, Mrs. McColloch has sent us some rare old photographs, which we plan to publish in an early edition of FLASHBACK. One shows a group of 34 Cane Hill girls gathered around the College Spring in 1893. We have succeeded in identifying all of them. Another fine old photo, by Mrs. Young, Fayetteville photographer, shows the 1896 graduating class of the University of Arkansas. This was the first class to wear cap-and-gown at their graduation. We have succeeded in identifying all 19 members of the class. Send you $3 now for membership in the WCHS and so assure yourself of receiving these rare pictures.

--- O ---

Our Society has retained its old PO Box number since reval ot the Fayetteville post office from the Square to West Dickson street. Address: Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

MEMORABILIA OF EARLY MILLS

by Ruth Holt Payne, Lincoln, Ark.

When families first began to settle in this territory, one of the first requisites to survival was bread, the "staff of life." As there were no mills, they had to devise a method of grinding their corn into meal. It was the custom to choose a spring with a high opening. A forked stick was fastened before it, and, balanced in the fork, was a pole on one end of which was placed an inclined water trough. When the trough was filled by the flowing spring it would drop, raising the heavy pestle hung on the other end of the pole. The water at once bespilled, the trough would resume its position and down went the pestle into the wooden mortar below, pounding whatever the mortar contained into fine powder. A half bushel of corn placed in the mortar at night would be changed to palatable meal by sunrise. (Goodspeed)

Later this primitive method was replaced by grist mills, the first being water mills, powered by the force of a stream that turned a ponderous wooden wheel. These water mills were not considered as satisfactory as the later steam mills because of the unpredictability of the flowing water. The steam engines were fired by cordwood so they could be regulated to the required force.

"Going to mill" was a great event in the early days in these parts, as going anywhere was a rarity. Apples were the chief source of income in Lincoln area, and after they were sold in the fall the next preparation for winter was to hook the team to the wagon and haul the corn to the mill to be ground.

My father hauled his corn to Moore's mill near Cincinnati, took his share of the meal after the miller had taken out the toll, and purchased enough flour for the winter months. At home the sacks of flour and meal were laid on boards suspended by wires from the rafters of the smoke house to keep the rats and mice from destroying them.

I could obtain no date of its construction but it is known that Moore's mill was in operation as far back as 1883. It was a 3-story building located in "Rag Hollow" southeast of Cincinnati. It was owned by Dave, Ham, and Gum Moore. George Barton was a miller there in the early 1900s. Moore's Mill was a little community in itself, having a store and blacksmith shop. The store was run at one time by John Holt, also by a Mr.Jones. The mill was purchased by Tom Jackson about 1925, was torn down and the lumber used in the construction of his canning factory.

Cincinnati was first known as Sylvia and it is claimed that its first mill was the Sylvia. There was at least one more mill there, owned by Late and Son. --- 0 ---

The very old abstract to the Rhea estate in Rhea valley, about seven miles northeast of Lincoln, states that Wm.H.Rhea purchased a steam mill from B. E. Woodruff and J.P. Kellam for the sum of $300, in 1858. This mill did a flourishing business both before and after the Civil War. During the War, when General Blunt had his headquarters in Rhea valley, he took over the use of the mill, but after the War it was soon in operation again.

I believe there were either three or two stories and a half, and the top part was torn down in the mill's declining years. In my childhood, most of which was spent in Rhea valley, the old mill had long been abandoned to the pigeons and the village children who liked to climb over its rotting frame at risk of life and limb. A few years ago, the present owners of the Rhea estate, the Menneckes, donated its tall old chimney to Battlefield Park in Prairie Grove where it stands as a monument today.

--- 0 ---

There is indication that there was a Pierson mill in Canehill vicinity before the Civil War, but I could get no more information on it. Mark Bean, a very early arrival here, owned a portion of land in Canehill vicinity,including the land where Henry Henson's house now stands on the hill above the water pump house that supplies water for Lincoln.

Mark Bean had a two-story house on this hill and his mill was set below the hill - a water mill powered by the spring there. The foundation was there as late as 50 years ago and traces of it were still in existence only a few years ago.

There is a story connected with the Mark Bean house. During the War it was occupied by Federal troops and they captured a young man named H. Little. A man named Jim Moore identified the lad, and, having a chance to talk with him, told him the troops meant to shoot him the next morning, as they had learned that he was a Southern sympathizer. He was under guard that night, and when he started to go to bed, he took off one boot and seeing the guard had relaxed his vigilance, he dashed out the door,one boot on, one off. He escaped and lived through the war.

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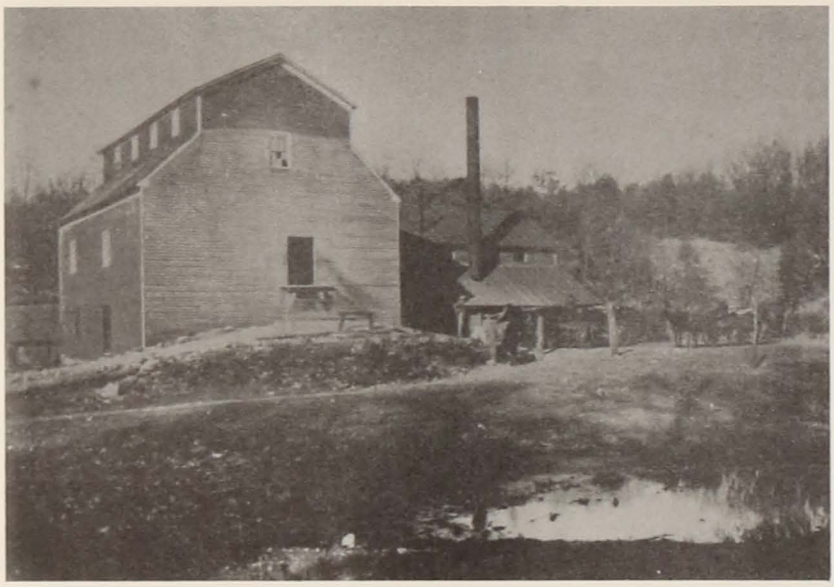
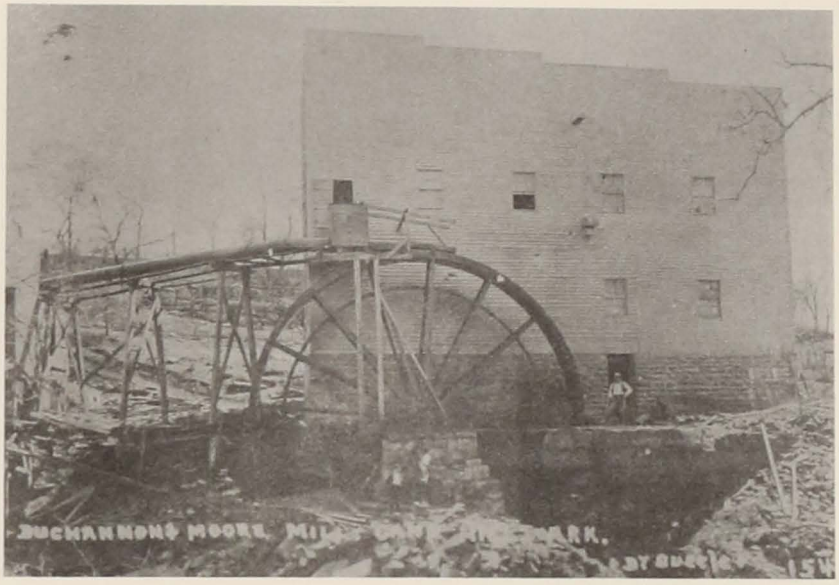
The earliest mill in the Canehill vicinity is claimed to have been the Mort Kidd mill. It was a water mill, presumably with a wooden wheel, and situated southwest of Canehill. W.C.Payne recalls riding to that mill with a sack of meal thrown across his mule as a child, many times. Folks came there from faraway places and camped, sometimes for a week, waiting their turn to have their corn ground. As time was heavy on their hands, they staged wrestling matches and other forms of entertainment.

The following is from the great-grandson of Mort Kidd, Bob Kidd who lives in the same vicinity. "Mort Kidd lived between Clyde and Cane Hill and owned land there. He ran a mill on Jordan Creek below Clyde which was the first in this part of the country, long before the Civil War. He was shot off his horse in the streets of Cane Hill by a man who owed him money. A Negro had been in debt to Mr. Kidd and had paid it off, and when Mr. Kidd asked this man if he wasn't as good as a Negro he pulled his gun and shot him. Mr.Kidd was supposed to have had quite a lot of gold buried. No one knew where it was, so people for several years dug in likely spots, but as far as anyone knows,no one has found it. The mill race and parts of the foundation can still be seen, also an old rock hog pen built close to the mill. I suppose they fed mill scraps and waste to hogs. It was a disgrace in those days to waste anything."



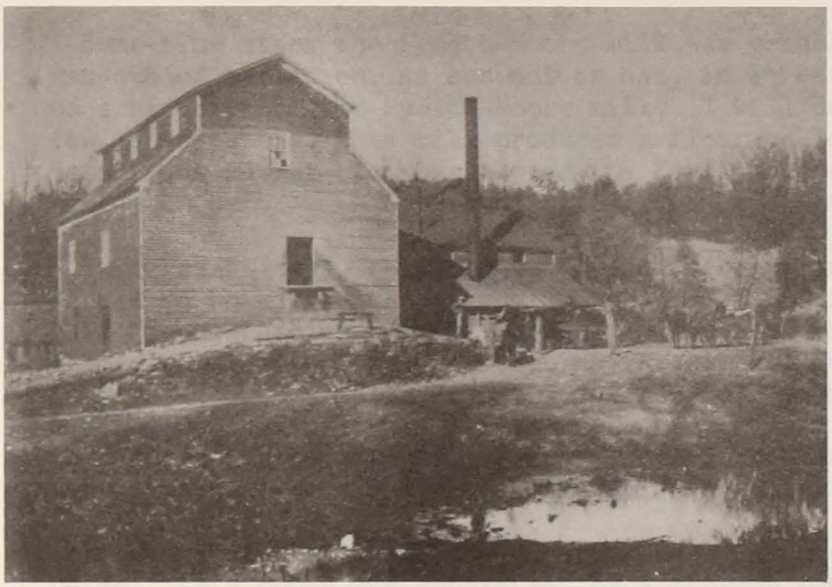
MOORE'S MILL NEAR CINCINNATI

(Photo by courtesy of Mrs. J. H. Patterson
1230 N. Maxwell Dr., Fayetteville, Ark.)



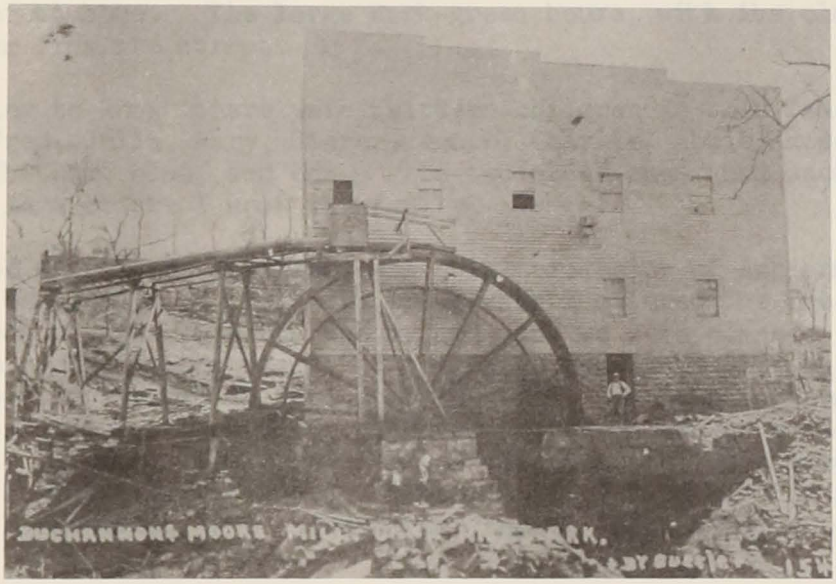
THE OLD MILL AT CANE HILL

(Photo by courtesy of Lacy McColloch,
Kensington, Maryland)



MOORE'S MILL NEAR CINCINNATI

(Photo by courtesy of Mrs. J. H. Patterson
1230 N. Maxwell Dr., Fayetteville, Ark.)



THE OLD MILL AT CANE HILL

(Photo by courtesy of Lacy McColloch,
Kensington, Maryland)

Some time after the Pyeatt-Moore mill was established, the Kidd mill was out of operation. As our editor has, in an earlier issue, published a history of the Pyeatt-Moore mill, I will do no more than add a few facts to his. This mill produced a flour called "Gem of the West". Before the advent of the railroad to Fayetteville in 1881, flour was hauled to Fort Smith by wagon, taking two days for the trip.

Mary Pyeatt says children were paid to bring in locust seeds which were used on the bolting cloth to help sift the flour through. In regard to the carding machine which was run by this same steam engine, an old-timer says wool was brought in from all over the area, carded into rolls about 18 inches long and one inch in diameter, and pinned with locust thorns. These rolls were then twisted into thread by women in their homes and woven on their looms into a fabric called "jeans". Wool thread was knitted into socks which sold for 20 cents a pair.

In the early 1900s mills were operated by a more modern power -- the Delco. This power was generated by a storage battery run by a small gasoline engine. Wm. Rodgers owned a grist mill in Lincoln that was run by Delco. Tom and Eugene King had a mill run by the same power. They manufactured the "Flavo" flour. Eugene's canning factory and store were supplied with water by Delco.

THE LEVERETT FAMILY

by Hattie E. Williams

Just across West Maple street from the old U of A Experiment Station was the old Leverett home. The large dark-green house with its old trees sat far back from the street.

It is interesting to know there were thirteen children in this family. They were: Fred, Julia, Mary, Storer, Annie, Charlie, Abbie, Rose, Edward, Gorham, Whitham, Nina, and Ena. The two older ones had each married and left home before I knew the family.

The father, Prof.Charles H. Leverett, was still professor of Ancient Languages in the University in the early 1890s when I entered the preparatory department. Rose Leverett was my age and we were classmates in freshman and following years. I sometimes went home with her after school, to study Vergil in her Cooper's Vergil with its copious notes, and to get chestnuts from their chestnut trees. Rose was a delightful person to be with, and many pleasant memories are associated with times spent at the Leverett home. Later in life, Rose married a young lawyer, J. E. Edwards, who afterwards became Judge Edwards of Oklahoma City.

Professor Leverett was an old man in the 1890s and neither he nor Mrs. Leverett lived many years.

After Rose's graduation, she and her brother Charlie went into the real estate business together. (He, before this, was in the grocery business at the corner of West Dickson and West streets.)

It was through them that the farm was divided into lots and sold. Streets were laid out, some of which still bear the family names, as Storer street and Whitham street. This was done about 1900. The farm consisted of about 80 acres and extended from Maple street on the south to Eagle street on the north, and from Garland avenue on the west to Whitham street on the east. Garland avenue was named for Senator Garland and Eagle street was named for ex-Governor Eagle. (Whitham Leverett had been name for an Engineering professor who was then teaching in the University.)

The farm comprised what is now called Leverett Addition to the City of Fayetteville. (There were two other homes besides the Leveretts' adjoining the UofA campus on the north; the Harris's and the Drokes.) Where Davis Hall now stands, at the corner of West Maple and Garland, was the site of the first Leverett School. On the beautiful crest of Rose Hill, a lot was given for a church facing east on Lindell avenue. This small white church stood for many years and at the last was used by different churches as a mission chapel.

It seems that the different members of the old family gradually drifted away to the West. Miss Mary and Abbie married two brothers, John and Joe Taff of Fayetteville. They and Mis Ammie went out West.

Miss Mary was a substitute teacher in the University and at one time taught my English class. Miss Ammie was an artist, and during our childhood we had lessons in crayon and charcoal from her. In later years she taught art in summer at the University. I had great respect for both of these teachers. We enjoyed the art lessons especially.

In later years, Miss Julia (who earlier had married a Mr. Cowan and was now a widow) returned and was living at the old home. She and I were teachers at the same time at the Leverett School (where Davis Hall now stands). I enjoyed very much renewing the old family friendship. She too went West later. The old home was sold and moved to face Oakland street. (It is now owned by Mrs.Ella Hurst.)

Mrs. Cowan once said she would like to look under the kitchen of the old Leverett home, to see how many Gorham Silver spoons the children had poked through the knothole in the kitchen floor. (In this connection she said they were related to the Gorhams of"Gorham Silver" fame).

At the time of which I write, Mr. Storer Leverett was taking special work in the University, and Edward Storer was also regularly enrolled. Edward later had charge of the waterworks at Newport, Ark.

The Leveretts were members of the Episcopal Church. They are remembered with affection and respect.

NEW COUNTY SOCIETIES

Arkansas' newest county historical societies are in Craighead County (Jonesboro) and Garland County (Hot Springs). President of the Garland County society is Miss Mary D.Hudgins, a graduate of the U of Arkansas. Secretary is Mrs. Inez Cline who recently visited our WCHS office, to find out how we operate.

THE LETTERS OF MATTHEW LEEPER

(Editor's note: The letters that follow were written by Matthew Leeper to his brother-in-law, Judge David Walker of Fayetteville. The Leepers came to Fayetteville in 1830, Matthew Leeper having been named Receiver of the U.S. Land Office here. His father, James Leeper, who was a Revolutionary War veteran, came with him. The Leepers owned part of East Mountain where Matthew Leeper built a log house. The farm sloped south almost to the West Fork of White River and it is on this farm that James Leeper is buried, under a marble D·A.R. marker that proclaims him a soldier of the American Revolution. In 1856 Matthew Leeper left Fayetteville, having been appointed U. S. Indian Agent for the Indians north of the Rio Grande and south of the Arkansas River. He died in 1894 and is buried in Sherman, Texas.

(The letters that follow and in the Walker family archives and have been made available to FLASHBACK by J. Wythe Walker of New York City. Typescripts were made directly from the originals by W.J.Lemke.)

---O---

Fort Smith 28th August 1853

My Dear Sir

I have learned by a son of Mr. Rapley that you were probably at home. This may be of service to me, as you (confidentially speaking) are the only man at Fayetteville that I can rely on in apprehending my Negro. They all wish me well to be sure but good wishes with nothing else is of but little use to a man when his Negro is in the bushes. It seems to me that the fates are against me. Even the Negroes that I have raised betray me. The scoundrel George being aware of my necessities has taken advantage of them. I have no means to enable me to use the proper means for his apprehension. But Sir I have every confidence that you will use your best exertions for his recovery. I have secured the services of Mr. Trammell who will bring him to me if he can be had. Nancy and the two children will pay Mrs. W. and I am resolved that he shall leave the State. I shall detain at the Choctaw Agency, I think, till the first of October or get him and if I am unsuccessful I will go on and take the chances. I have not time even to thank you for the many acts of kindness extended to us. Of my intended movements I say nothing publicly with a hope that George will think I have left the country.

Your friend truly
M. Leeper

Hon. D. Walker
Fayetteville, Arks.

(The entire letter is written in Leeper's hand.)

--- O ---

San Antonio July 9th 1855

To the President of the
Know Nothing Society
Sir

Some months since I became one of your members, and situated as I am, have not had it in my power, conveniently to attend any of your meetings, or to participate in any of your deliberations. Therefore, it is not to be presumed that I should be well posted with regard to the

bent of your policy or determinations. I joined your Society for the purpose of aiding in the consummation of a long cherished and much desired measure which seemed to be your object - ostensibly so, at least; to wit: The passage of a law, by the General Government, absolutely prohibiting the introduction in our County of foreign Paupers and Felons; also an additional check upon respectable foreigners who may hereafter arrive; not to interfere as a matter of course with the rights and privileges of those who are already here, and that your secret movements were for the laudable purpose of pursuing uninterruptedly and quietly your plans to aid any Party that might be in power to have such a law passed. I never for a moment supposed that the real object was to establish a separate and distinct political Party, and at the same time to declare the two great existing political parties dissolved and defunct. I understand that ever Democratic Administration has favored the notion of such a law as I have mentioned, but for some cause, perhaps from the rancor and turmoil of mad party strife, it has never been passed. If the Country has been mismanaged under Democratic rule, it is our fault; the principles are good, and we should appoint better men to fill high Offices.

If it were possible for a new Party such as you seem to desire to succeed, composed of the most discordant materials in the World, hastily formed, and more hastily organized, would it be at all probable that such a Party would reflect more honor upon the Country, or bestow more benefits upon the People than a great Party that has been successfully tried for years, and is the admiration of the World.

Sir, my political principles have ever been Democratic and my course has been onward, without the least shadow of turning. The great Republican or Democratic platform has withstood the scrutiny of talents and of time unscathed, and it is the standard of liberty around which I shall rally: the brightest gem of which a free and independent American can boast, and the rock upon which the liberties of this Government repose. May God forbid that it shall ever be trodden under foot or its Members dispersed. With these reasons, and many others which might be given, I respectfully ask leave honorably to withdraw. It is my privilege to do so.

Very respectfully
Your obt servt
M. Leeper

--- 0 ---

San Antonio Feb. 8th, 1857

Dear Sir

I wrote several letters to you last Fall in which I promised to transmit two hundred dollars by Christmas, a cheque for one hundred dollars I did send -- to all of which no reply has been received.

I find that it is out of the question to think of living in so dry, so expensive, and so uncertain a Country as this. It has not rained here enough to wet the ground an inch deep for nearly twelve months, and at present no prospect of rain whatever. Having determined to return to Fayetteville I found myself so much embarrassed that it was impossible for me to comply with my promise without the sale of my Place which I have not yet been able to accomplish even at a sacrifice of one half of its value, but whether I sell or not, my family and negros will return in the Spring.

There is no one that feels more keenly the mortifycation of subjecting a friend to inconvenience than myself, but during the ensuing Summer I am determined to satisfy all who have claims upon me if it should take all that I have. This morning I leave for Washington D.C. and you might ask if money can be obtained for that purpose, why it should not be applyed in the payment of debts. My answer would be that it is gratuitous offering of a freind here, who sincerely desires my success and welfare. I do not start with any money of my own. I feel that it is a duty which I owe to myself and to my family to use all laudable exertions which is possible to afford me relief from my pecuniary embarrassments; and if I fail I will have the consolation of having done all that I could do, and that I still have property enough with which to pay out.

Very sincerely as ever
Your friend, M. Leeper

Hon. David Walker
Fayetteville, Arkansas

(Evidently written by a clerk, but signed "M. Leeper" in Leeper's own handwriting. At this time he was suffering from a crippled hand. - WJL)

--- O ---

Comanche Agency, Texas February 7th 1859

Dear Sir

Since the receipt of your kind letter of November 3rd 1858 I transmitted a cheque for one hundred and twenty five dollars, the receipt of which has been acknowledged, and on the 27th of January 1859 I transmitted a cheque for seventy-five dollars not yet heard from, making in all seven hundred dollars which has been forwarded last Fall and this Winter. In the memorandum furnished in your letter of the above date, you mention the payment of a hundred dollars in 1856 yourself. I recollect the item very distinctly, and in the Fall of that year I purchased from Colonel Myers, United States Quarter Master at San Antonio, a cheque for one hundred dollars, made payable directly to you, which I immediately transmitted, which cheque must have either been lost or stolen from the mail. I will write to Colonel Myers immediately for the number, date, and place of payment of the cheque, and thus endeavor to trace it up. If the cheque has been lost I can procure a duplicate, and if stolen from the mail perhaps some trace can yet be obtained of the felon. If however it should be finally lost, the loss shall be mine and the money shall be paid.

I am just struggling through my pecuniary embarrassments and if the seven hundred dollars recently paid will answer Mrs.Washington's present necessities, it will oblige me very much to be permitted to pay her at the rate of twenty pr cent pr annum instead of ten pr cent on the remainder until the first of July, when I will have (if I meet with no misfortune) one Quarter's salary due me which shall be appropriated in the entire liquidation of the claim, but if she requires more, please inform me by the return mail and the amount shall be procured regardless of the cost to me.

You and your family have placed me under very many and lasting obligations for your kindness and care of Laura. I would have gone for her immediately, but my private affairs and business engagements absolutely forbid it. Please write on the reception of this and accept the most sincere and best wishes of

Your friend
M. Leeper

Hon David Walker, Fayetteville, Arks.

Wichita Agency L.D.
Nov. 29, 1860

Dear Sir:-

I wrote you last week in reference to my indebtedness at Fayetteville, all of which shall be settled during the first week in January ensuing.

I now write merely for the sake of a little gossip in reference to the political appearance of the country, and for the pleasure of discoursing with a friend for whose opinions I entertain sentiments of high respect. In my last letter I mentioned that I was decidedly in favor of the Union, and there is probably but few men who lives in it that would go further than myself to sustain it if it could be done with fairness and justice to the South; but from the tone of the Northern papers and the overwhelming success of Mr. Lincoln, I fear that the South will be driven to the wall and be forced to withdraw, in such should be the case, the liberties and enjoyments of the American people will have set in blood forever.

No man can reasonably anticipate the desolation which would ensue; civil war would be the inevitable consequence; neighbor would be arrayed in arms against his neighbor; brother against brother and father against his son, until in after years we would look back with despairing mockery and utter ruin which our folly have brought upon us. In meeting such a fearful crisis the odds in every particular is against the South; it will be composed of the most discordant material. There will be two great parties, the Union and the Anti-Union parties. Hundreds and thousands of black Republicans will be found in our midst and scattered in every direction throughout the Southern States, ready and willing to stimulate the negroes, to the commission of the most fearful outrages. I am not an alarmist and believe that I am speaking nothing but the Truth.

But how are these things to be avoided? There is a maxim that you might as well rob a man of life as of the means by which he lives; if these things have to come, the sooner they come the better, as I would rather aid in breasting the storm myself than to have my children do so after me. I am speaking to some extent at random, for my position is so isolated and remote that it is impossible for me to be well posted in reference to the political history of the country.

There would not be time for me to receive a letter from you at this place previous to my departure, but a letter addressed to me at Fort Smith would be very acceptable if you deem it worth the trouble.

Very sincerely
Your friend
M. Leeper

Hon. David Walker
Fayetteville, Arks.

(The signature is Leeper's but the letter itself is written in someone else's excellent hand. -- WJL)

Sherman, Texas
June 4th 1875

Hon. D. Walker
Dear Sir

Your kind letter of the 1st Inst. was duly received, for which accept my thanks, and pardon me for employing Lucy in the mechanical part of my reply. I have written but few letters with my own hand since I was crippled.

It is true that we have been negligent in our correspondence and the only reason it has been so, on my part, is the inconvenience of writing with my own hand.

In taking a retroscpective view of the past, I am forcibly struck with the justice of the remarks of your friend, which is most true. I have never known any man whose course has been more steadily onward and whose habits more regular, in every particular, than yours. Mine has been the reverse, and it is really a matter of astonishment to me that I have anything left upon which to sustain myself and my family. I have but little as it is but hope that it will be sufficient for our sustenance during the brief period of our remaining existence.

Our children are doing tolerable well, particulars I will give you when we meet. Matt has grown to be fully up to, or over, the medium size. He has a respectable Commission and a good report in regard to his official character, has been complimented for his gallantry in public orders by the Secretary of War.

My habits have undergone an entire change. You are aware that in former years I sometimes engaged in the wildest scenes of revelry and dissipation, and in taking a view of the past I can think of but one thing upon which I can congratulate myself, and that is the almost universal peace and quietness with which I have lived with my family. I have not for years indulged in intoxicating drinks, or any species of improprieties, and you can scarcely imagine the unutterable contempt and disgust I feel for drunkenness or debauchery of any kind. I verily believe that ardent spirits is the greatest curse that was ever inflicted upon the human race. It has caused a greater flow of orphans tears and severer pangs to the throbbing hearts of disconsolate widows than famine, pestilence or the sword ever did.

I am your senior, I believe, by one or two years. I am in the seventy second year of my life. The woes and ills, sorrows and disappointments incident to human nature, with us, is rapidly approaching their terminus.

The Bible is either true or false. If it is true, no human wisdom could fathom and benefits which is in the power of all men to obtain. If it is not true, no man is a loser by believing it true. My opinion is that it is true. I believe that the ever-loving God has furnished everything necessary for our temporal existence which we are unable to furnish ourselves, and given us a guide which if strictly pursued with an abiding faith will lead us to the inheritance of eternal life in a future state.

If we were to refuse to avail ourselves of the means provided for our temporal existence, we would instantly perish, and most certainly, in my opinion, we will do so if we fail, or neglect, to use the means provided for our spiritual existence. I believe that a great many of the forms, ceremonies and customs of most of the professed Christian organizations or associations are the accumulation of the nonsense of the age. Our Lord when he was upon earth avoided everything like ostentation or show. Everything he did was marked by the strictest humility, kindness, long suffering, and charity, without any display of nonsensical actions.

My impression is that in passing from the Jewish to the Christian dispensation that a majority of those who embraced the Christian religion, carried with them vestiges of the Jewish religion also. This is clearly demonstrated by a large sect in the country of Galilee, who embraced the Christian religion under the preaching of St. Mathew, by still adhering to most of the rites and ceremonies of the Jewish law. The robes worn by Episcopal Ministers, in my opinion, is a relic of Judaism. Every historian knows full well that among all nations whose customs, manners and languages are changed, that they take with them many of the ancient customs. The Romans were heathen people and when their Emperor Constantine embraced the Christian religion these people still continued in their worship many of the customs, trickeries and legerdemain, operations which they had been accustomed to use in appeasing the wrath of their heathen Gods, which now can be seen cropping out in every Roman Catholic church in Christendom.

The Bible informs us that all that is necessary for our salvation is to fear God and keep his commandments. I do not propose to preach a sermon and therefore will close.

I do hope you will visit us soon, with a view to stay some time with us, as I have much conversation for you. We would surely visit you if we had the means to do so, but we have not.

As ever very sincerely your friend

M. Leeper

A JACKSON NOTE

A former Mayor of Fayetteville, Ark., Waymon C. Jackson, son of Columbus Jackson and Virginia Appleby, attended Baptist College, Louisiana, Mo., and entered Morgan Looney Male School in Fayetteville, Ark., for 18 months and the University of Arkansas two years. He went to Texas for a year. He studied law in 1875 in the office of A.M.Wilson, Fayetteville, and in St.Louis 1876-77 with Henderson and Shields. He was admitted to the bar, Fayetteville, and elected Mayor in 1881 and re-elected in 1882. Ran for Senator in 1884 from Washington County but was defeated. Elected Mayor in 1885 and resigned in 1886 to go to Fort Smith to practice law with Col.E.C.Boudinot. Jackson moved to Muskogee, Indian Territory, 1890, where he entered law practice.

(From Carselowey: My Journal)

MY GRANDFATHER, WILLIAM E. MAYES

by Vale Mayes, Edinburg, Texas

There is no doubt in my mind but that the mounted officer in the picture of the First Arkansas Battery USA was my grandfather, Wm. E. Mayes who was Lieutenant in command of the battery after Jan.25, 1864. Captain Stark had been removed from command due to illness or injury. I am sending a later tintype of him and you will note the likeness in face, beard, size and build. I have the buttons and epaulets from his uniform. My brother had the sword that he is holding upright, and the sash that is wrapped around his waist.

Wm. E. Mayes was the most colorful of my Arkansas ancestors. He had a quick wit and a story for every occasion. His father, samuel Mayes, born 1808 in Georgia, came to northwest Arkansas in 1830, settling near the site of present-day Greenland. His mother was Loucinda Miller Mayes.

Wm. E. Mayes joined the Confederate army in 1862 -- forced to join according to Goodspeed or possibly joined as a home guard. He was signed by Col. T. M. Gunter and listed as a Private in Co. A, 2nd Regiment, Arkansas Infantry. Shortly thereafter he was listed on the company roll as a deserter. At the same time he was shown as enlisting in the U.S. Army and assigned to the First Arkansas Light Battery Volunteers as First Sergeant.

His brother, Samuel Mayes, was also shown on the CSA roster (absent without leave) and then enlisted as a Private in the First Arkansas Battery USA. William Mayes was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on Sept.10, 1863. I am attaching copies of his Civil War record which covers various phases of his war experience. He saw active duty at Cassville and Rolla, Mo.; at Fayetteville, Prairie Grove and Fort Smith in Arkansas; and at Fort Gibson. He was in the battles of Prairie Grove,Pryor Creek, and the Narrows and Fayetteville, plus several skirmishes. I have heard him tell of the fighting at Prairie Grove and about turning over bodies after the battle to see if any were his brothers.

He told me of an amusing incident in Fayetteville near the close of the war when all hands were bored and wanted to go home. Some curious and enterprising soldier discovered that there were kegs of liquor in a commissary building up on a piling foundation. By the use of a brace and bit and a little "wildcat drilling", they soon struck oil, or liquor if you please. And shortly, several nose bags (for horse feeding) were filled and just as quickly emptied. Everything was getting hilarious until the officer of the day had the bugler give the "Call to Battle". My Grandfather said every one sobered to a degree and that his brother Samuel, who was in charge of a four-horse team to handle an artillery gun, brought up a cannon at a gallop with only two horses hitched.

After the war (1869) Wm. E. Mayes married Amanda E. Peerson and shortly thereafter built a home at Johnson, the lumber being hauled from War Eagle sawmill. With Jacob Johnson and the senior Samuel Mayes, he built and operated the old mill at Johnson in Washington County. It was run by a water wheel, powered by a mill race utilizing the big spring which is now at the fish hatchery.

He also operated a freight business for many years, between Fayetteville and Fort Smith, taking flour and meat to Fort Smith and bringing back freight for Fayetteville merchants. After 17 years he sold his interest in the mill to the Johnsons and it is still (1963) being operated by them. The last time I was in this mill, a few years ago, the original walnut timbers inside were slick and polished by almost 100 years usage.

Wm.E. Mayes was a student in Arkansas College, Fayetteville, leaving school there about 1860 or 1861. In 1889 he was Commander of the G.A.R. Post 34 in Springdale. He was a member of the AF&AM. I also recall that when I was a boy, he was active in the Anti-Horse Thief Association which was quite a social club as well as a protective organization. He was a staunch Republican and was candidate for office at times but never elected. He was several times Marshal of the Day at the Decoration Day observance and parade in Fayetteville. He was one of the organizers of the Fruitmen's Union at Johnson, Ark., and one of the first to raise strawberries in that area.

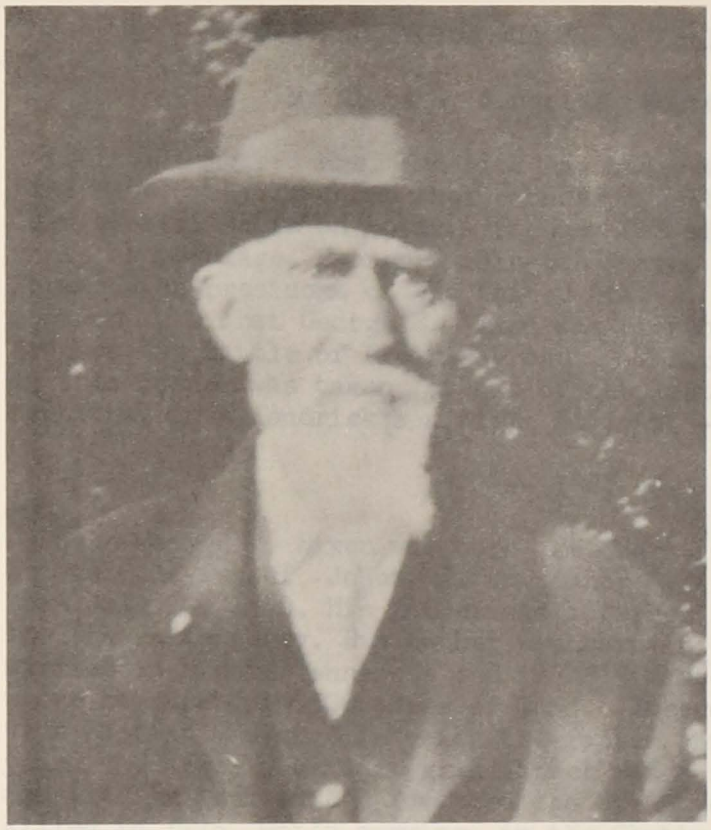
I recall reading about Joe Ellis in one of the"Flashbacks" and he was well-known to me as a child, for he lived with my Grandfather most of his life. I believe his real name was James Malcomson. He was Scotch-Canadian and, as I now recall the story, had enlisted for some wealthy Northerner for a fee of$1000, which was permissable,and it was thought that he had repeated, by deserting and enlisting again for some one else. At any rate, he was supposed to have marched to the sea with Sherman and drew a pension as Joe Ellis. He was the first postmaster of Johnson and the post office was then in my Grandfather's home. Joe was killed by a passenger train at Johnson when he failed to hear the train due to deafness. I am sending a picture of him and also his obituary. This obituary was written in the Springdale News by "Mulkeepmo", which was the name used by Marion Mason of Johnson, Ark., a brother of Mrs. Maude Hanks.

I am sending you a picture of my Great-Uncle Samuel Mayes II and his wife Rebecca, who I believe was a Reid. He served with the First Arkansas Light Battery USA. Will enclose a letter written by Captain Denton D. Stark in his behalf, for having been AWOL beyond his leave, due to the presence of guerrillas in his neighborhood. They lived in Elm Springs, Ark. most of their life and both are buried there. Some years after the Civil War they resided in the Murrell home at ParkHill Indian Territory, which has now been restored by the State of Oklahoma as a historical site.

(This is the first of a series of articles by Mr. Vale Mayes. The second will appear in an early issue. Later we plan to gather all the Mayes and Peerson material, together with the many fine of Washington County pictures that he has collected, in one book. -- WJL)

BATTLE OF FAYETTEVILLE CENTENNIAL

Plans for our WCHS observance of the 100th anniversary of the battle of Fayetteville will be announced in the April 1 number of Secretary Carter's Newsletter. An account of the action at the corner of College avenue and E. Dickson street, will appear in the next issue of FLASHBACK.



(Above)
George Washington Nixon

IN THIS ISSUE
SEE
"GEORGE W. NIXON,
MY UNCLE BY MARRIAGE"
by
Clara B. Kendrick

(At right and below)
William E. and Amanda Mayes

IN THIS ISSUE
SEE
"MY GRANDFATHER,
WM. E. MAYES"
by
Vale Mayes

GEORGE WASHINGTON NIXON, My Uncle by Marriage

by Clara B. Kendrick, Nowata, Okla.

(Editor's note: Mrs. Kendrick has had several articles published in FLASHBACK, mostly about her pioneer ancestors of Washington County. Last summer, while on a visit to our OCHS office, she told us that her uncle by marriage, George Washington Nixon, was kin to Richard Nixon, former vice-president of the United States. What Mrs. Kendrick didn't mention was that George W. Nixon was probably the last surviving veteran of the battle of Prairie Grove. The picture of him that appears in this issue was taken at one of the last Prairie Grove Confederate reunions. Mrs.Kendrick's article follows. -- WJL)

--- 1862 ---

Uncle George W. Nixon was born at Ozark, Franklin County, Arkansas. He was the son of Johnny E. and Nancy E. (Keese) Nixon. George was born July 12, 1840. His father was a farmer by occupation and was born in 1804 in Kentucky. His mother was born in South Carolina. They were married in Middle Tennessee and in 1835 came to Franklin County, Ark., where he purchased 500 acres of land. They were members of the Primitive Baptist Church, in which the father had been a Deacon for fifty years. George W. Nixon's grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812 and died in 1864 at the advanced age of 98 years. His father had been killed in 1776 while serving in the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War.

Uncle George W. Nixon died on Oct. 24, 1934 at the age of 94 years, 8 months and 12 days. He was converted in September 1860 and united with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church "and was a fathful member until his death." He enlisted in the Confederate army in 1861, with men from Franklin and Crawford counties, and was enrolled in Co. A of Brooks' Battalion, Carroll's Brigade, at Arbuckle, Indian Territory.

After the war, on Feb. 20, 1872, he was united in marriage with my aunt, Mary Frances Simpson, who preceded him in death on Nov.20, 1920. To their union were born three children: Jim C., Stella, and Ed Nixon, who survived him. He was also survived by seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Uncle George W. Nixon, who lived in Prairie Grove for more than 40 years, served four years in the Confederate army and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. He was a member of Prairie Grove Camp No. 384 and was a regular attendant at the PrairieGrove reunions.

George W. Nixon was a brother of John Nixon, who was the grandfather of Richard M. Nixon, who served as Vice-President of the UnitedStates.

In about 1850 John C. Nixon and his wife, Nancy Keese Nixon, gave their son John and his wife Mary provisions enough to last them for a year, and $1,000 in money. The money was placed in their wagon axle where it could not be found by robbers. "They left Franklin County, Ark., in search of gold in California, where they struck it rich. Uncle George W. Nixon once visited his brother and family in California and brought back gold nuggets to show to doubting folks in Arkansas, including us folks who lived in and around Prairie Grove and had never

been out of Washington County much less the state of Arkansas. It took many months to make that journey in a covered wagon drawn by two horses. Part of the time they had to make their own roads. In those days folks were not in a hurry. They did not plan on ever coming back to the places they left or ever seeing their homes and loved ones again.

Having the Nixon biorgraphy in my files, it was easy to add Mrs. Travis' material to the Nixon family tree. In 1956, my brother, Marvin T. Simpson, a druggist of Kansas City, Mo., came and took me down south to Mulberry, Ark., where our great-grandfather, John Louis Simpson, had a large plantation when the war started between the states. My reason for making the trip was concerning some unsolved mysteries in the Simpson family. Seeing the Simpson plantation near Mulberry was worth all my efforts. We saw the Simpson spring and Creek and even some of the buildings that had been put up in the early 1800s. Also we met Uncle George Nixon's own niece and his sister's own daughter, Mrs. Arch L. Travis. She showed us the deed that had been made to her family, signed by my great-great-grandfather, John Louis Simpson.

Uncle George W. Nixon's son Jim had always lived in and around Prairie Grove, Ark. His daughter Stella went to California. Her address is unknown to me. Jim died some years ago. Ed, the baby son, disappeared, some time during World War I. None of his family knows where he went, but there were reports that he was in South America. His only son Ed Nixon lives in Kansas City where I visited him and his family in 1959.

This is written by George W. Nixon's niece who was born a Simpson. My mother was a Reed-Sing-Simpson.

-- Clara B. Kendrick

LETTERS FROM READERS

In one of your recent publications, there was mention of Sweet Home as Prairie Grove's first post office. I have a letter that was written to my grandfather, William Hugh Campbell, addressed to him at Sweet Home, Washington County, Arkansas from his sister Mary Campbell Henderson at Golansville, Virginia. This letter was written Sept. 1, 1846. My grandfather was born at "Poplar Grove" near Bowling Green and Milford, Virginia, in Caroline County. His family came to that county over 200 years ago, and some of them still live in Caroline County.

-- Mrs. A. J. Spicer, Oklahoma City

My father, Edward T. Gaither, a Confederate, was in the battle of Carthage, Mo., July 4, 1861. A few months later he left the service and went home to Franklin County, Mo. Then he enlisted again, in the Confederate army, at Yellville, Ark., on Oct. 10, 1862, with a Captain Barry in charge. He was assigned to Co. H, 10th Missouri Cavalry. I would like to know if the 10thMissouri Cavalry took part in the battle of Prairie Grove. And would there be a list of their names? From the Confederate records in Jefferson City, I have the following record: "Edward T. Gaither appears on a Roll of Prisoners of War,of Co.H, 10th Regt. Mo.Cavalry, Confederate States Army, commanded by Col.Wm.T.Barry, surrendered at New Orleans, La., by General E.K.Smith CSA to Maj.Gen. E.R.S.Canby USA, May 26, 1865, and paroled at Shreveport June 7, 1865".

-- Miss Edna Gaither,
1027 Jackson Ave., Joplin, Mo.

MY SERVICE AS A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

by Capt. Joseph Young Bates

I enlisted in Captain A. V. Rieff's Independent Scouting Company (at Fayetteville) June 27th, 1861. This Company was called General Ben McCulloch's Escort. Why they were called an Escort, we never knew. This Company was large, consisting of about 120 men. General McCulloch kept a part or all of the Company on the scout all the time. When on the march, if near the enemy, the Company was divided into four squads of thirty men each, one in charge of the Captain, and the other three squads each in charge of a Lieutenant.

Our campaigning through the summer of 1861 was in Southwest Missouri. The first engagement in which the Company participated was at Dug Springs, 25 or 30 miles southwest of Springfield, on August 2nd, 1861. General Rains of the Missouri State Troops was in command. About one-half of Rieff's Company was in the engagement, the other half being out on scouting duty.

General Rains ordered Captain Rieff, with what men he had, and one company of the Missouri State Troops, to make a flank movement to the right and locate and ascertain the strength of the enemy. When within about one-half mile of the enemy, we were ordered to dismount and leave one man to hold four horses; the others deployed at five paces and advanced as skirmishers. We soon encountered the enemy, armed with Sharp's rifles. Our men being armed with double-barrelled shotguns, they had the range on us and opened fire on us. The officer in command saw a regiment of cavalry forming to charge us, and knowing we were not strong enough to meet them, ordered a retreat.

The regiment of cavalry made the charge, but when they got sight of our horses in the woods, mistook them for a body of infantry, and all halted except fifteen or twenty, who overtook our Captain and twelve men. The Federals were nearly all killed, Captain Rieff killing four of them in less than one minute; their horses were shot from under them and we had a general mix-up. One of General Rains' men mistook the subject of this sketch for a Federal, and they had a hand to hand encounter which lasted until the Missourian surrendered to the Arkansas lad. This was the first experience our company had with Federal bullets and sabers.

Our next battle was at Wilson's Creek, or Oak Hills as it was called by the Confederates, on August 10th, eight days after the Dug Springs engagement. This last battle (Oak Hills) was a great victory for the Confederates. The Federal General Lyons was killed in this battle, and the Federals were completely routed. While Captain Rieff's Company were under fire, they did not participate in the engagement. Sometime after the battle of Wilson's Creek, Rieff's Company was disbanded and the members joined other commands.

The subject of this sketch had a long spell of typhoid fever which rendered him unfit for service until the summer of 1862. However, he volunteered for the battle of Elk Horn, or Pea Ridge, which was fought on the 7th and 8th of March, 1862, where General Ben McCulloch and General McIntosh were killed.

On June 26th, 1862, I enlisted in Company B, 34th Arkansas Infantry, and served with this Company until April 30th, 1864, when wounded and rendered unable for further service during the war.

The 34th Arkansas Infantry, King's Regiment and Hawthorne's Regiment composed Fagan's Brigade, which mustered about 3,000 men for duty.

Our first battle after organization was Prairie Grove on December 7, 1862. This battle was fairly won by the Confederates, the Federals losing forty percent of their men in this engagement. After this battle the army was ordered to the Arkansas River, and down said river to Little Rock, which point was reached in the latter part of January, 1863. They remained at Little Rock in semi-winter quarters until late in the spring. Then followed the Helena campaign. The battle of Helena was fought on July 4th, 1863. This battle was disastrous to the Confederate Army, and a retreat was ordered to Little Rock, which was accomplished under great difficulties, owing to high waters.

Little Rock was evacuated on September 10th, 1863. The army retreated by the way of Benton and Arkadelphia to Camden, where the army remained in winter quarters until about the first of April, 1864. This winter our rations consisted of very poor beef and sour meal.

The Confederate Government had a pen of about 300 head of fine fat hogs in front of our camp, which we were expecting to commence drawing on as soon as our poor beef was exhausted; but imagine our surprise when we got word that they were going to move those hogs to Red River in a day or two. The pen was strongly guarded to prevent the soldiers from taking a hog without leave, a sentinel being posted on each of the four sides of the pen. The following night being very dark and rainy, the subject of this sketch, and five other comrades of Company "B", decided to make the effort to get one of those hogs in spite of the guards. We succeeded in getting a 300-pounder, evaded the guards, and carried him to a thicket about 300 yards from the pen, and succeeded in dressing, dividing the porker, and getting back into camps without being discovered. But our greatest problem was how to cook that meat without being detected. We knew that the cooking of that meat would so permeate the atmosphere as to attract the attention of the whole regiment. We succeeded, however, in feasting on pork for several days without being reported. Our officers were usually very lenient in such cases, and kept one eye closed to keep from knowing too much. But they generally got a mess for keeping that eye closed.

We were ordered out of our winter quarters about April 1st, and marched to Shreveport to assist General Taylor in checking Banks in his march up Red River. The battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill were fought on the 7th and 8th of April before we reached General Taylor. We were then ordered back to Camden to give General Frederick Steel our attention.

He had come in and taken possession of our winter quarters and fortifications. The Confederate Cavalry had cut off his communications, captured his trains and guard. Steel evacuated Camden and retreated in the direction of Little Rock. The Confederates pusued and overtook Steel at Jenkin's Ferry on the Saline River on the 30th of April, 1864, when and where the battle of the Saline, or Jenkin's Ferry, was fought.

There the subject of this sketch was wounded and rendered unable for further military duty. Thus ended his career as a Confederate soldier.

This battle of Jenkin's Ferry was won by the Confederates, and as the Federals retreated from the field, they carried the writer from the battlefield to their hospital, where their surgeons gave him immediate treatment and every attention at their command. The writer remained at this place only a few hours, as the Federals were retreating and our men pursuing. Brigadier General Dandridge McRae saw me among the wounded Federals. He sent an orderly for an ambulance and had me taken to our own field hospital

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(Editor's note: We are able to present this account of the war-time adventures of a Washington County Confederate soldier by courtesy of Kate H. Parker of San Augustine, Texas, who sent us the typewcript. She explains her Bates (Cane Hill) connections thus:

("Henderson Andrew Bates, CaneHill pioneer, was my great-grandfather. His first wife was Nancy S. Miller Bates. His second wife was the widow of a Pyeatt. Their graves are in the Cane Hill Cemetery.

("My grandmother was Clarissa Ann Molloy Bates, wife of Joseph Young Bates (son of Henderson Andrew Bates). She was the daughter of John (David) Molloy and the Molloys lived in Arkansas first and then moved to Corsicana, Texas. So, also, did the Joseph Young Bates. I think my Grandmother Bates' mother was Clara Ann Thompson before she married John or David Molloy - also from Arkansas. I am trying to find out if her parents were buried at Cane Hill. She was a Molloy and married a Bates; and a Molloy man married a Bates, making a double first-cousin relationship in the families.")

THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

Our pride in the Society's publication of "The McClellans" by Mrs. Gerald B. McLane, and "Dear Parents" (the Shibley letters) by Mrs. Hugh Park, and of our special Cnetennial issue of FLASHBACK commemorating the battle of Prairie Grove, has been dimmed by our failure to publish four other historical booklets that are in various stages of completion:

1. The Oldest Bank in Arkansas (McIlroy Bank)
2. The Smith-Cates Family History
3. Tontitown (with many old photographs)
4. The Hermanns of Hermannsburg (Dutch Mills)

The delay in publishing these important historical booklets is due to lack of funds. The typing, stenciling, mimeographing, assembling and mailing are contributed by volunteer workers. But the paper, ink, stencils and postage must be paid for. As must the picture pages that are an important feature of our publications.

However, we can assure Mrs.Troutman, who wrote the Smith-Cates family history; and Richard Ardemagni, who supplied the pictures and much information about Tontitown; and the descendants of the Hermanns of a hundred years ago; that these publications are in preparation. Only lack of funds and man power have delayed them. These folks can be assured of one thing -- that our Historical Society never forgets the pioneers.

WJL

COMING UP, SOON

After a search of some 30 years, we have found an original copy of the most devastating piece of satire in the history of Arkansas politics. It is "King Jeff the First." Actually, we found two copies. One was a typescript preserved by the late Mrs. Morgan McMichael. This was loaned to us by her brother, John A. Reed who is a member of our WCHS board of directors. Further search turned up a printed copy of this classic, printed in Washington, D.C. and copyrighted. It belongs to O. E. Williams, president of the WCHS. It is still in the original envelope in whith the author, George P. Stockard, addressed it to Mr. Williams 40 years ago.

Some of our older readers will remember the circumstances and the cast of characters of this 1905 event, when Governor Jeff Davis fired the president of the University (Hartzog) and put Judge J.N.Tillman in his place. This terrific piece of writing, in Shaespearean meter, has a cast of characters that includes the following:

Jeff Davis, politician and Governor. Also president of the University board of trustees.
Reagan: - A professional politician and office holder
Vincenheller: - The same kind of man
Cole: - A professor in the University who seeks preferment
Tillman: - A Circuit Judge who seeks to be president of the University
Humphreys: - Chancery Judge and a true friend of the Governor
Miller: - A hotel proprietor and friend of the Governor

While "King Jeff the First" is fictional, it adds a lot to our understanding of the days when the University was under political control. If we can get another eye-witness or two, we intend to report the altercation in the old Washington Hotel in Fayetteville when the Governor was soundly caned by Hugh Dinsmore while Jack Walker was guarding the door.

The only way that you can get a copy of this classic is by sending $3 to the Washington County Historical Society for a 1963 membership. Come all you politicians. There are too few of you on our membership list. You're here today, but there were others before you. Send $3 to the Washington County Historical Society and learn how you got as far as you have. "King Jeff the First" in our next issue.

THE RHEAs

Mrs. Marian Burnes, Yellville, Ark. queries us thus: "I see in your articles frequent references to Rhea's Mill.I wonder if you could tell me anything about the Rhea for whom it is named. We had a Moses Rhea here in 1850 census. Evidently he died before 1860. His wife, Viannah Austin Rhea, died here and is buried here. I have no record of his death, nor have I found his grave. What I want to know is, is he a member of that Rhea family? He was from Tennessee. I have been told that he left here and died in Missouri. In 1915 his youngest son came back here to visit his mother's grave. He was an old man then himself. This I got from an old file of the county paper. Please tell me if there is any connection with the Rheas of Washington County and this Moses Rhea?

THE BLOYED FAMILY LETTERS

In the September 1962 issue of FLASHBACK we published the letters written by members of a wagon train that traveled from West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas, to Oregon in 1852. These letters were written by W.M. and Mary Ann Tigard to Eli and Mary Bloyed and toJames and Nancy Winn, of West Fork.

In this issue we are publishing several letters written by Bloyed kin in Indiana and Missouri to their relatives in West Fork. All the Bloyed letters are in the Gertrude Fallin Cook papers inthe manuscript collection in the University of Arkansas Library. They were copied for us by Miss Bernice Karnes, member of our WCHS Board of Directors. She herself is the gr-gr-granddaughter of Eli Bloyed.

--- B ---

Letter from Tubby Bloyed to Ely and Polly Bloyed

Memphis the 2nd day of January 1830

Dear Brother and Sister. I have met with a favorable opportunity of writing a few lines to you to let you know that I am well at this time and hoping these few lines will find you all in the same. I left home about two months ago and came to this place with a boat load of hogs. My family was all well when I left them. I have almost sold out my load and expect to return home shortly. I received your letter after you went home. That was a satisfaction to me to hear tha you make a safe travel. You wrote to me that you was a going to move to Loveless Purchase and I never could hear from you any more till I met with Mr. Peterson Bloyd. He informed me he knew where you lived and said he would convey a letter to you for me and I was glad to meet with a chance.

I have nothing very particular to write to you. James McMurty has moved over and lives about three miles from me and was all well when I left home. Stephen and Lusinda McMurty is both married. I went to see Brother Jacob and Purnel on White Water last summer was two years ago and they was all well then. I have heard from GreenCounty about a year ago and our friends was all well as far as I could understand. If you get this letter I want you to write to me and let me know where and how your welfare is and so remains no more but your loving brother till death. I am in haste and must conclude. When this you see remember me.

Tubby Bloyd

Ely Bloyd and Polly Bloyd (at West Fork, Ark.)

--- B ---

Letter from William and Barbhabay Corum to Ely and Polly Bloyed

Smithville, Mo. June 28, 1847

Dear Brother and Suster. I received your letter on the 25 day of June which gives me much pleasure to hear from you all and your ------ and were all well at present and doing as well as we could expect. We hope that these few lines will find you all enjoying the same blessings. And you wrote to me to know if I had heard anything from our brothers and sisters lately or not. I have not heard from any of them for a long time but ------ and I heard from him last spring and he had been afflicted a long time with the rheumitis and had buried (?) them

all with you for dead but I have heard from you again this side of eternity.

My children are all living around me. Thomas is living about 7 miles from us and has 9 children, 5 daughters and 4 sons. John is living in Platt County about 100 miles from us and has 5 children, 3 sons and 2 daughters. And Milton is living about 300 yards from us and has 3 children, 1 son and 2 daughters. Nancy Burgess has lost her husband. He died last August and she is living about a half mile from us and has 4 children, 3 sons and 1 daughter, and Wilkerson is living with old people and has 4 children, 2 daughters and 2 sons, the worst brats you ever saw, the oldest name William Thomas age 9 years, the next name Loucindy age 7, then next named Hardin Rancy 4 years, the next Irena age 1 year. And Susan is living about 18 miles from us in Clinton County and has 5 children, 1 son and 4 d.

Health is tolerable good here at this time and we have had a backward spring. The crops look tolerable well. Times is tolerable good. Corn worth 1.25 per barrel wheat 75 cts per bu. Bacon 5 to 7 dollars per hundred but on foot 3 dollars. We had fine crops last year. Wheat is thin tho looks tolerable well and we have one negro woman and two children which is great help to them. So nothing more at present but wish you to write to us as often as you can and we have plenty of everything and all of our children got good homes of their own. Remain your affectionate brother and sister to Eli and Polly Bloyed.

William and Barshabay Corum

(Note: The hand-written postmark is Smithville, Mo. June 6. "10" in the upper right-hand corner indicates the postage. The letter is addressed thus:

To Arkansaw
Washington County
by Fayetteville
to Eli Bloyed)

Letter from Tubby Bloyed to Eli and Polly Bloyed

Lynnville Ind(iana), Warrick Co.
Sept 12th 1848

Dear brother and sister and family

I now take the opportunity of addressing a few lines to you to let you know that we are all in moderate health. As to myself I still have the sore eyes. I will now inform you that I started on the 13th of August one year ago from Price McMurtry's for home and had a long foot chase and met with several old acquaintances on the road. I came down through Carroll County and down White River and met with several of your old acquaintances who showed me much friendship especially old Major Wolf at the mouth of the Big North Fork thence down near Batesville to my old acquaintances where I was at home and rested three or five days. Then I went near Pocahontas where I rested three days with them. Then put out for home and went one hundred and forty miles through Missouri to Cape Girardeau viewing the country as I came through which was much gratification to me. And I had a hot travel but stood it well. I then boarded a steam boat and landed home on the 11th of Sept last and found my children and connections generally well and doing well.

I have been living with my son Preston since last Autumn. My last daughter Ibby Ann was married about 3 mo. ago and is well situated. I do not know if I will ever have an opportunity of coming to see you any more for I have had the sore eyes worse this summer than common and if you cannot come to see me I do (not) know whether I will ever see you again. James McMurtry has moved into the state of Illinois and part of his children, and part still remains at Newburgh on the Ohio River. I have never had any account from any of our brothers since I saw you, to know whether they are living or not. Give my respects to all your children and grand children. The crops are tolerably good in this country. It has been a very wet season till lately. Times are dull here at this time. I will now bring my letter to a close and if I never see you any more farewell my affectionate brother till death. So no more at present but still remain your dear brother until death. To Eli Bloyd and Polly Bloyd and family

Yours respectfully Tubby Bloyd

--- B ---

Letter from Wm.C. and Bathsheba Corum to Eli Bloyed

Clay County, Mo., April 16 1853

Dear Brother,

We received yours of Feb. 12 and were rejoiced to learn that you are all well and hope that this may find you still enjoying the same blessing. We are well at present except the old man who has been sick about 3 months or more. He thinks he is wearing out with old age. Our children are all in tolerably good health so far as we know. Thomas had the misfortune to lose his son James the 24th day of last month. Tubby has never been back nor have we heard from him since last fall. He wrote to us then and stated that they were all well. The last account we had of Hetty she was a widow and living with her children. There has been a great many deaths in Tubby's family and the connection. Stephen Bloyed and his wife are both dead. His wife died about a year after he did. Lenora, Stephen Bloyed's daughter, has been to see me and lives not far off. Alfred and William Graham that you inquired about are the wons of Werington (?) and Nancy Graham. William Graham married Lepiney Corum, one of Thomas Corum's daughters last winter. Brother William was living last spring when we heard from them.

We have had a beautiful winter and spring so far. Everything bears a good price with us. Corn 35 ct per bushel, wheat 75 ct, oats 30, hemp 9.25 per cwt, bacon 7 ct. Land is rising and so is everything else. We have nothing more of importance to write at present. You must write to us as soon as you get this. Let us know how you are getting along and how you are. So farewell for the present. Your affectionate brother and sister.

William C. Corum
Bathsheba Corum

--- B ---

Letter from Preston Y. Bloyed to Eli Bloyed, West Fork, Ark.

Lynnville, Warrick Co., Indiana
Nov. 25 1865

Dear Uncle, I received your kind letter this morning which surprised me very much for I supposed you was dead for some time. I am glad that you are among the living yet. My father is dead. He died on the 11th day of Oct. 1861. He had been as well as common all summer and was

taken with an apoplectic fit and fell dead inthe stable at my youngest sister's (Pareen). Aunt Hetty is still living. She lives at Newburgh on the Ohio River. She was well the last time I heard from her as to bodily health but was about blind. She is living with her daughter Eliza Gray. John Lynn is dead also. He died on the first of March 1863. His widow is married again and gone to Illinois but I understand she is coming back to Lynnville again to live. My sister Nancy and her husband are both dead. He died on the 30th Nov. 1860 and she died on June 1, 1864. Sister Lepina is living yet. She is in Spencer Co. I have two sisters younger than myself. Both of them are living in Spencer Co., Indiana. StephenMcMurtry lives close to Lynnville in this county. They are all well as far as I know at present.

I will say that I expect to start to Missouri tomorrow to look at the country and see if I can find some good country to go to. We have had a very sickly season here but health is considerably better now. My own family are all well and in tolerably good health at present. I will say that our taxes are very high here, something near 3 dollars on the hundred and seven dollars and fifty cents on the holl. We have a good corn crop this year but wheat was very light. We have a beautiful fall dry and pleasant weather. I will come to a close. I want you to write to me as soon as you get this and tell me all about your country that you can. No more at present but remain your affectionate nephew

Preston Y. Bloyed

P.S. I will say that my children are all living with me yet six in number. My oldest Mary is in her 25th year
My next Louisa is in her 24th year
Pareen is in her 22 year
Purnel is in his 20 year
Margret is in her 17 year
Martin is in his 15 year

My youngest is the tallest one of the family. I wish to (ask) if stock is plenty in your country. Since the war is horses and hogs plenty? Also what land is worth where you live. Is there any market nearer you than it was when my father was at your house some time ago?

So no more
P Y B

To Eli Bloyed

--- B ---

Letter from Hester McMurty to Eli Bloyed of West Fork, Ark.

Newburg, Ind., Warrick Co., Oct. 15, 1866

Dear brother,

I take this opportunity to write a few lines to you. I received your letter on 16th of Sept. I was glad to hear that you was all well and doing well. My health is tolerable good except neuralgia in my head and eyes which makes me almost blind but I can see to get around a little yet. My family connection is all tolerable well and going tolerable well. Kisiah Gray's oldest daughter was married lastThursday. They have one son and one daughter single.

The Union men carried the day in this state by about 15 thousand and state of Ohio 50 thousand, Pennsylvania 15 thousand and Iowa a large majority. There is but little danger of the Johnson or rebel party getting much power in Congress. I am sorry to hear of your loss by the war but your loss is comparatively small to what some other losses are.

Joshua Gray must have lost three or four thousand and taxes is very high. His tax was over seven hundred dollars this year and stock and provisions is very high - flour 13 dollars per barrel, bacon 24 ct per lb, pork 12 to 15 ct per lb, beef 10 to 15 cts. in market. Milk cows from 25 to 50 dollars, horses from 100 to 200 dollars, corn from 75 to 1.00 is the asking price. Dont know of any sales. Crops are generally good. Wheat was good but only half crops raised in general It is held at $2.50 per bu.

I would like very much that you would take a pleasure in coming to see us as you are stout and healthy and then we can talk more about it. It has been 16 years since I lost my companion. I lost a good home. He said he wanted all to meet him in heaven. I am making my homeat Joshua Gray's with Kisiah. Joshua told me that I was welcome to make his house my home as long as I lived and they furnish me a room and I furnish my own beds and bedding and eat at their table. I have suffered a great deal the last four years with my eyes. I am trying to content myself to suffer the will of God hoping to suffer my last suffering here. I hope God will my spirit for heaven prepare where suffering is no more where I shall see as I am seen and known.

Hester McMurty

--- B ---

(FROM the Bloyed Collection)

An article of agreement made and entered into on the 2 day of Nov. 1874 by the heirs of Joel A. Combs dec. of the first part and Pernetty Combs, the wife of Joel A. Combs dec., the party of the second part. The parties of the first part: Mary A. Winn, Elizabeth F. Martin, Sophronia Combs, Caledonia Combs and Milas M. Combs, do agree and bind themselves to give the party of the second part all the rights, privileges and uses of all the cleared land or she is to have the use of the whole farm as long as she lives under her own control, and if any of the party of the first wants to improve their part of the land which falls to them that have the privilege in so doing.

We the parties of the first do agree together and bind ourselves to keep said land in the family, not to trade it to any person outside the family, and we furthermore agree and bind ourselves, our heirs to the party of the second part to have and to hold all the rights and privileges that this intervenes and contains and if one or all of the first part fails to comply with this agreement then their deeds of conveyance are to be nil and void. We hereunto set our hand and seal this day and date above named.

(Mary M. Winn
(Elizabeth F. Martin
(Caledonia Combs
(Milas M. Combs
(Sephronia Combs

STATE HISTORY MEETING

The annual meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association will be held at DeWitt May 3-4. Our WCHS will be represented if provision is made for the county historical societies, to discuss their mutual interests and problems. As of this date, we have not seen the program and do not know what arrangements have been made.

HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS OF IMPORTANCE

MY JOURNAL, by James Manford Carselowey. Notes on the pioneers of the Indian Territory and northwest Arkansas. Thousands of names. The book is mimeographed and contains 84 pages, plus a dozen pages of pictures. The book sells for $3 and may be ordered from the author at Box 156, Adair, Okla.

MARRIAGE BONDS OF UNION COUNTY, ARKANSAS, 1829-1870, by Annie Laurie Spencer. Marriages are listed alphabetically, making it easy to find any family. Also "Bride's Index". 188 pages, printed by lithographic process, and nicely bound. Price $7.50. Order from the author, Box 247 El Dorado, Ark.

AN INDEX TO "THE HOUSE OF FOWLER", by Mrs. Frank Cline. References are listed alphabetically. Complete and authoritative. 70 pages, printed by multi-lith process. Board covers. Order from Mrs. Cline at 914 Summer St., Hot Springs, Ark.

THE McCLELLANS OF ALABAMA AND ARKANSAS, by Mrs. Gerald B. McLane. Genealogical tables for the McClellans and collateral families. Illustrated with 50 fine old photographs. 80 pages, mimeographed. Cover has pictures of Wm.B.McClellan home in Talladega, Alabama, and Evan White McClellan home in Cane Hill, Arkansas. Price $3. Order from Washington County Historical Society, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

CENTENNIAL EDITION of Grand Prairie Historical Society's HISTORICAL BULLETIN (Janury 1963). 22 pages. Contains Arkansas County Tex List for 1835. Also "History of Stuttgart", "Historic Arkansas Post", and other important articles. Address: Boyd W. Johnson, St.Charles, Ark.

THOMPSON FAMILY MAGAZINE, Mrs. Beverely Stercula, editor, 212 South Hellis Ave., Fullerton, Calif. Issued three times a year. $2 per year. Mrs. Stercula sent us the three 1962 issues and a 1962 index for same. This is one of the better family history magazines.

W.E.McIntosh,of Tulsa, Principal Chief of the Creek Nation who holds membership in our Society, has sent us two recent publications that we have added to our collection. One is a 24-page booklet entitled "History and Legends of the Creek Indians." The other is the December issue of American Scene, published by the Gilcrease Institute. This is the "OKLAHOMA ISSUE", a beautiful magazine. In articles and gorgeous pictures it covers the history of Oklahoma. This special number of "American Scene" may be obtained by sending $1.25 to the Gilcrease Institute, PO Box 2419, Tulsa, Okla.

"DEAR PARENTS", being the war-time letters written by two Confederate soldiers, W.H.H. and J.S. Shibley, to their parents in Van Buren, Ark. These letters, never before published, have been compiled and edited by Ruie Ann Smith Park of Van Buren. Price of the booklet is $2 and only 200 copies have been printed. Order from Secretary, WCHS, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

Three of our members have donated their complete file of FLASHBACK to the Society and our secretary, Deane G. Carter, is now able to supply missing back numbers to libraries and individuals. Write to him at Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

"MY GRANDFATHER WAS IN THAT BATTLE"
(A letter from the grandson of a Confederate Veteran)

Dear Mr.Lemke:

I received the special issue in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the battle of Prairie Grove Dec.7, 1862. Thank you very much.

My grandfather Rees, my mother's father, was in that battle. The Rees's were from Wales. The Rev. Thomas Rees, noted Presbyterian divine, was my gr-gr-gr-grandfather. His son Ephraim, my gr-gr-grandfather, was born in South Carolina in 1755. He married Nancy Earle, born in South Carolina 1764. To this union were born 13 children: Harriet, John, Edward, Sallie, Samuel, Anna, Joseph, Miriam, Damaris, Polly, Arter, Rhoda and Thomas Price Earle Rees, my gr-grandfather who was born in Kentucky April 12, 1805.

He was a prisoner of war at Alton, Ill., and the officers seeing he was sick and old, started him on his way home. He died on board a steamer near Jefferson City, Mo., and was buried at the old homestead near Dresdon, Mo. He was married to Martha Fristoe (born 1799, died 1864). Her father was Thomas Earle Fristoe who commanded a regiment of Virginia Militia in the War of 1812. They had seven children: Thomas, Nancy, Catherine, William, Benton, Susan and Mariah.

Benton Rees, known as Cap Rees to every one who knew him, was born near Dresdon, Mo. June 9, 1839. He was my grandfather and a Confederate soldier under Gen. Sterling Price in the Civil War. He was in the battles of Cowskin Prairie, Wilson's Creek, Lexington, and Prairie Grove. He was captured and sent to Illinois in 1863. He was discharged May 16, 1865. He married Martha Ellen McGill Agee Feb.6, 1866, and to this union were born: Anna Maria, Kathryn Leah, Mary Elizabeth, Thomas Benton, R. Nell, Mattie Morris, and Gelia Agee Rees, my mother.

My mother was born near Dresdon, Mo. Dec. 4, 1884 and is living and in good health today. She married Don Harryman (deceased) June 24,1903. To this union were born nine children: Eugene Forbest, Nancy Irene, Lorna Vivian, William Rees, W.D., Anna May, Kathryn Louise, Don Rogers and Barbara Lee. All married and have families and grandchildren of their own.

Following is an account of the war service of my grandfather, "Cap" Benton Rees (1861-1865) of Co.B, 10th Regt. of Missouri Infantry. He enlisted in the cause of the Confederacy at Georgetown, Mo. on May 1, 1861, in Dr. Joe Fox's company and remained with it until after the fight at Boonville, Mo., General Price in command.

He returned to Georgetown, Mo. and here organized a company of Missouri Mounted Infantry. They went southwest to Osceola, Mo., through St Clair County, met General Price near El Dorado Springs, camped there a week, then on to Cowskin Prairie, in McDonald County. Here Sigel was, coming to get between Price's and Harris' armies. After receiving the word, Price's army headed for Carthage to assist Harris, but even though they marched as rapidly as possible and traveled all night, they failed to reach Carthage in time for the fight. Harris ran Sigel back to Springfield. Then the Confederates went back to camp at Cowskin Prairie in McDonald County. They reorganized, with reinforcements

of Arkansas soldiers and one regiment of Louisiana troops.They drilled two weeks, then moved on, met more reinforcements from Arkansas,went to Wilson's Creek and on the 10th day of August 1861 fought in the battle there. They won and went on to Springfield.

The Missouri company then went back to Georgetown and stayed there a week or ten days and again reorganized with Staples in command. They went southwest and met the regular Confederate army near Dry Wood in Vernon County, Mo. The next morning they met the Federals, driving them back to Fort Scott. From there, they went to Warrensburg and had a skirmish there, went on to Lexington, held the Federals there, captured a steamboat with prisoners on it, and won by almost starving the Federals. They were without water for three days.

From here, Benton Rees went south in Parsons' Brigade, with Sterling Price in command. Rees was in the Missouri State Guard at the time. He went to Arkansas in 1862 and joined the regular Confederate army with others, in Lige McCoffin's company and served with that outfit. He was in the fight at Prairie Grove, Ark., on the 7th day of December 1862, in Parsons' Brigade. Colonel Stein, their commander, was killed.

The regulars reorganized after the battle, Colonel Pickett in command. They wintered near Little Rock in 1862. In the spring of 1863 they moved to Helena and were in the battle there on July 4, 1863. Benton Rees was wounded, captured and sent to Memphis, and from there taken as a prisoner to Alton, Ill. in September 1863, then transferred to prison at Fort Delaware in April 1864, making in all, 20 months a prisoner. He was exchanged in February,1865, going to Richmond,Va. Mobile, Ala., and Oklona, Miss. The company organized, joined the 2nd Missouri Cavalry, went from Oklona to Columbus, Miss., and was honorably discharged the 16th day of May 1865 from Co.D, 2nd Cavalry, and returned to his home near Georgetown, Mo. This record entitles any and all descendants of Benton Rees to become Sons or Daughters of the Confederacy.

Benton Rees resided near Georgetown, Mo. for 50 years, later moving to Hickory County, Mo. He passed away at his home near Weaubleau, Mo. April 28, 1917. He was buried in the Tillery Cemetery near Elkton, Mo. He and his wife, Martha Ellen McGill Agee Rees, and a daughter, Mattie Vaughan, are at rest in this lonely and hard-to-get-to cemetery. But this past year a tractor and brush-hog cleared the way, so relatives and friends could once more walk the path of yesterday and remember a Man of the Old South.

Eugene Harryman,
a grandson of Benton Rees,
Weaubleau, Missouri

"OLDEST BANK" IN OZARKS MOUNTAINEER

Our Society furnished the information and pictures for the article in the February issue of the Ozarks Mountaineer, published at Branson, Mo. ($2 per year), entitled "The Oldest Bank in Arkansas." This, of course, is the McIlroy Bank of Fayetteville.

A LETTER FROM A CHEROKEE HISTORIAN

(Editor's note: One of our favorite correspondents is James Manford Carselowey of Adair, Okla. His fourth book, "My Journal", has just recently been published. It contains much information and thousands of names. While it is chiefly about the Cherokee Nation, there are Washington County, Ark. overtones, some of which we plan to publish in future issues of FLASHBACK. "My Journal" sells for $3 and may be ordered from the author at Adair,Okla. Here is Mr.Carselowey's letter. WJL)

Dear Mr.Lemke:

I don't know how I could do without your WCHS publications.They have given me pleasure time after time, as I frequently get them out and read again. Also, I liked your Genealogy magazine.

I wish that you could see who all went to school in Washington County before the War. It's like a Cherokee Who's Who. I should have put their names down as I found them but I didn't. John Lynch Adair went to school at Ozark Institute under Rev. "Uncle Bob" Mecklin. He says it was near Fayetteville and that a score of Cherokee boys were there when he was a student.

John Lynch Adair lived for three years in the home of the Rev.Cephas Washburn, then living near Bentonville, Ark. J.L.Adair was a Captain in Stand Watie's regiment. Later he was editor of the Cherokee Advocate, the Vinita Chieftain and in 1892 of the Vinita World. Adair went to the California gold fields in 1849 with his cousin,William Buffington. From 1876 to 1880 he was a delegate to Washington. He served as secretary for Chief D.W.Bushyhead and Chief J.B.Mayes.

J.L.Adair was the son of Thomas Benjamin Adair and Rachel Lynch. He had two distinguished and wealthy uncles who lived in the Fort Wayne area near the Washington County line -- Joseph Martin Lynch and James Allen Thompson, both large slave owners. The latter brought a large amount of gold from Georgia to the Indian Territory. J.L.Adair's home was near Evansville, Ark. but on the Indian Territory side ofthe line. He lived in the same house for 54 years.

John Thompson Adair, Chief Justice of the Cherokee Nation, lived in Tahlequah. He was born Dec. 22, 1812, the son of Walter Adair and Rachel Thompson, daughter of William Thompson. John Thompson Adair married in January 1840 Penelope Mayfield, daughter of Jesse Mayfield of South Carolina and Sarah Starr, daughter of Caleb Starr of Tennessee. The Jesse Mayfield family came to Indian Territory 1838-39 with the Jesse Bushyhead wagon train. J. T. and Penelope Mayfield Adair settled in 1840 near Tolu in Washington County, Ark.

Captain (Senator) Lucius Burr Hooley Bell, born Feb. 13, 1838 in Georgia, was the son of John Adair Bell and Jane Martin, daughter of Judge John Martin, first Chief Justice of the Cherokee Nation. L.B. Bell was a Captain in Stand Watie's regiment. He was a nephew of the General and Mrs.Watie. Jane Martin Bell and her mother (died March 14, 1849 in Fayetteville, Ark.) are buried in a field near Stilwell, Okla. (See page 16 of "My Journal").

Hooley Bell was sent to Ozark Institute but because of bad health he was sent to Rusk County, Texas. He returned to the Cherokee Nation and in 1858 was a student in Cane Hill College. In 1867 he moved to Delaware District. His place was about 3 miles north of Pensacola, Mayes County, Okla., not far from Adair. He was a member of the Senate four times and was a delegate to Washington, DC. He is buried in Vinita.

Dr. Banjamin Franklin Fortner was born Aug. 15, 1847, the son of M. F. Fortner who lived 8 miles north of Dallas, Texas, but is buried in Pryor County, Okla. Dr. B. F. Fortner is buried in Vinita cemetery. The family came from Kentucky. Dr.Fortner served 4 years in the Confederate army. In 1866 the Fortners moved to Cane Hill, Ark., where B.F.Fortner was a student in Cane Hill College under Prof.A.H.Buchanan who later became president of the university at Lebanon, Tenn. Dr. B.F.Fortner entered the office of Dr.W.B.Welch who was then practicing at Cane Hill. Dr. Fortner graduated from Vanderbilt University and attended the Missouri Medical College in St.Louis. In 1876 he moved to Fayetteville and became a partner of Dr. Thomas J. Pollard. He then moved to Claremore, I.T. but in 1882 was back in Fayetteville as partner of Dr. Clinton S. Gray. In 1884 he moved to Vinita. He was married in 1874 at Siloam Springs, Ark. to Jane Gunter, daughter of Col.Dean Gunter (related to your T.M.Gunter). Since this Fortner data includes Fayetteville and Washington County, I thought you might like to know about it. There is a lot of Indian Territory data like this which concerns your area. The two areas overlap in historical data.

My kindest wishes to you and all the members of the WCHS staff. Your magazine has brought much happiness to me. I only wish I had copies from the start. You were going, long before I became a member.

James M. Carselowey, Adair, Okla.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Bert C. Yoes of Washougal, Wash., who holds membership in our WCHS and is a native Washington Countian, wrote an account of the founding of the city of Tigard, Oregon, by members of the Tigard family of West Fork, Ark., who made the overland trek to Oregon Territory in the early 1850s. Mr.Yoes wrote this account to his cousin, Miss Bernice Karnes, of our Society. We hope to publish it in the next issue of FLASHBACK. Bert Yoes, of course, is a descendant of one of the first families of Washington County, Arkansas.

Chas. E. Sullivan, 306 Jefferson St., Warrensburg, Mo., wrote us as follows: "I take the liberty of asking you for a bit of information about old water mills in your vicinity. In my earlier days I had quite a lot of experience in the operation of that type of mills, and my love for them and the part they played in the early settlement of the Ozarks and other parts of the country. One of the last of this type mill was built in your area near Cane Hill. This old mill had a large water wheel, some 35 feet tall. Now I am interested in knowing whether or not this old wheel is still standing, and if so, would it be possible to obtain pictures of it."

THE McCLELLANS OF ALABAMA AND ARKANSAS

In December our Society published the latest in our series of family histories -- the story of the McClellans of Cane Hill, Washington County, Ark. This superb genealogy, complete with 54 fine old photographs, is the work of a McClellan descendant, Mrs.Bobbie Jones McLane of Hot Springs. She not only gathered the material and the pictures, and put them in shape for publication, but herself typed the stencils when our WCHS funds ran low at the end of the year.

The McClellan family history includes many collateral lines -- Lacy, Campbell, McClure, Wilson, Truesdell, Braly, Peck, McCollomh, Hagood, Fareman, Moore, and other old Washington County families.

We printed 200 copies of "The McClellans" and have only 66 copies left for sale. Price is $3. Order from our Secretary, Deane G. Carter, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark. Mrs.McLane has given us permission to use any of her material. So we take pleasure in presenting the story of John T. ("Blind John") McClellan, as Mrs.McLane has recorded it in her book.

--- O ---

John Truesdell McClellan

John T. McClellan was born 15 April 1842 at Cane Hill, Ark., and died in December 1919 at Cane Hill. On 8 June 1904, at Cane Hill, he married Mary Buchanan, the daughter of Rev. John Thomas Buchanan and Alta Venia Russell of Cane Hill.

John T. McClellan lived most of his life on the farm that was the original homestead of his grandfather John, who was the McClellan pioneer at Cane Hill. This farm occupied perhaps a quarter section of fertile land, with a fine spring of water on the northeast side. The original house, built by John the pioneer, was near the spring. After John's death the farm passed to his youngest son, Evan White McClellan, farmer and merchant, who reared a large family there and after the Civil War built the big white house that still stands.

John T., eldest son of White and Sarah Jane (Truesdell) McClellan, was educated at Cane Hill College. He joined the Confederate Army at the outbreak of the War and served in Co. H, 15th Arkansas Infantry under Captain Buchanan. In 1865 he lost his sight, becoming totally blind, a condition brought on by exposure to the elements and to neuralgia. At the close of the war he returned to his farm home to regain his health. Being a man of strong character and personality, he was determined to overcome the handicap of blindness. He attended the University of Virginia and in 1872 received the Bachelor of Law degree, For a time he practiced law at McKinney, Texas.

After a few years he returned to the farm home and lived with his parents during their lifetime. In spite of the handicap of blindness, John T. McClellan was an expert horseman. He raised horses and always chose a spirited, intelligent horse to train. The horses that he trained and rode were remarkable. During the training period, Mr. McClellan hired a man to ride with and assist him.The horse was trained to respond readily to signals and commands, to stand unattended, and to avoid passing under low objects. John rode regularly to the village (Cane Hill), frequently carrying a basket of eggs or a bucket of milk, and the horse always seemed to know where to go. Without any apparent

direction from the rider, the horse would come to a position parallel to a gate for opening and closing, or stand quietly alongside a platform during mounting or dismounting by the rider. The attendant was especially needed during the training of the horse on the highway.

John McClellan had a keen mind and a retentive memory. After traveling with a companion he could remember the general pattern of the highway, such as bridges and changes in direction. He was so skillful that he could travel long distances, much of the time alone or with a minimum of assistance from those he encountered enroute. He frequently rode to Tahlequah, Indian Territory, when his brothers Charlie and Will lived there. After they moved to the area of Claremore, where their sister Ada Foreman lived, he rode out there to visit them. It is said that he even rode to McKinney, Texas, where he had practiced law and was a land owner.

From all accounts, the star performer of John's riding mounts was a horse named Josh. On one occasion after riding to Claremore, Okla., John planned to spend considerable time and decided to send Josh home alone. To keep anyone from thinking that something had happened to the rider, he pinned a note to the saddle stating "Let Josh pass", signed John T. McClellan. In due time, Josh arrived at Cane Hill and his own stable.

It was the general opinion that each trained horse was taught to signal the rider at the forks of the road and when he met someone on foot. More than one person has reported standing quietly as Mr.McClellan came along, only to have him call out "Who is there?" The last horse that John trained and rode was a little sorrel mare named "Maggie".A kinsman as a child, tried numerous times to see if by standing quietly off the road John McClellan would fail to know that someone was there. Each time as he approached, Maggie would throw her head up and down. John always rode with his hand on the base of the horse's neck so he was sensitive to the signal. At the signal from Maggie, John would call out "Hello, who is it?" Seeing that I could not fool him, I would identify myself and then he invariably sang out "Hello, Cousin; fine day, isn't it?" or some other cheerful remark.

John T. McClellan was married to Mary Buchanan in 1904. Her devoted companionship did much to round out his life. She died about 1918, and he was again left alone. Even in his seventies, John continued active. For years he had picked his way along a stoney path to the barn to feed and care for his horses. In the early winter of 1919, he fell from the hay loft and fractured several ribs. Pneumonia followed and claimed his life. This was the end of a colorful career.

His horses, which were quite wild from lack of handling, were sold at auction. The promising star of the new crop was an unbroken horse named "Early Bug". Along with the other horses, Maggie too was sold. Will McClellan bought Maggie and the saddle and bridle, and took her to Claremore, Okla. Some months later, the people in the village of Cane Hill were surprised to see Maggie coming down the road. She, too, had made the trip alone from Claremore and went directly to her old stable. This sad sight recalled the memory of a cheerful and resouceful man, who had a great peace of mind and a calm serenity.

This pedigree chart of C.Vale Mayes should be read in connection with the article about his grandfather, Wm.E.Mayes, that appears on pages 21-22 of this issue.

Pedigree Chart of CHARLES VALE MAYES

whose reminiscences of his grandfather, Wm. E. Mayes, and his great-grandfather, Samuel Mayes, begin in this issue. Later installments will report on his research in various branches of the pioneer Mayes, Peerson, Slauter, Haxton and Miller families of Washington County.

CHARLES VALE MAYES was born Oct. 4, 1906 at Johnson, Ark. He married Jan. 22, 1928 Georgia Emmalene Boss, who was born Dec. 5, 1908 at Monett, Missouri.

The parents of Charles Vale Mayes were: Charles Stinson Mayes, b Nov. 28, 1870 in Washington Co., Ark.; d June 16, 1934 at Muskogee, Okla; and Lillie Ellen Slauter, b Feb. 14, 1872 at Attica, Ind. She d Mar. 13, 1949 at Muskogee, Okla.

His paternal grandparents were: William E. Mayes, b Apr. 19, 1841 in Washington Co., Ark.; d Aug. 27, 1918 at Johnson, Ark.; m Jan.14, 1869 to Amanda E. Peerson, b Feb.18, 1841 at Shady Grove, Washington Co., Ark, and d Sept.20, 1921 at Muskogee, Okla.

His maternal grandparents were: James Buell Slauter, b Nov.12, 1845(?) in Warren Co., Ind.; d Feb.21, 1931 Springdale, Ark.; and Elizabeth Catherine Haxton, b Mar.20, 1846(?) in Danville, Ill.; d Dec. 5, 1930 in Springdale, Ark.

His gr-grandparents were Samuel Mayes, b Aug. 7, 1808 in Georgia (?); d Feb. 3, 1879 in Johnson, Ark.; buried in Combs Chapel cemetery, Washington Co., Ark. He m Lucinda Miller who was b Nov. 8, 1819 and d Apr. 27, 1888 and is buried at Combs Chapel.

His gr-grandparents were John Peerson, who was b May 7, 1814, and d on Sept. 30, 1893 (?) in Springdale, Ark. He m Sarah Miller who was b July 4, 181?, and d Oct. 4, 1889 in Springdale, Ark. Both are buried in Bluff Cemetery at Springdale, Ark.

His gr-grandparents were Isaac Slauter, b July 26, 1808 in Ind.or Ohio; d Sept. 30, 1871 in Warren Co., Ind. He married Martha Kathrin Smalley who was b Apr. 21, 1805 in Ky.; d Sept. 18, 1876 in Ind.

His gr-grandparents were Wm. Bennett Haxton, b 1824 in Ohio and d 1897 in Springdale, Ark. He m Margaret Foote who was b 1825 near Zanesville, Ohio, and d March 1885 at Springdale, Ark.

Among his gr-gr-grandparents are John Miller, b Jan. 4, 1791, probably in Gibson Co., Ind., who m 1813 Polly Roberta Miller who was b Feb.25, 1799 and d Feb. 9, 1880.

C. Vale Mayes is still working on his Smalley and Haxton lineage. He has learned that his gr-gr-grandfather Smalley was a captive of the Indians. And that another gr-gr-grandfather, James William Haxton who married Sarah Katy Carey, was the son of Capt. James F. Haxtone and Margaret Bennett of England.

If any of our WCHS members are interested in the above lines, they can address C. Vale Mayes, 102 Country Club Rd., Edinburg, Texas.

WCHS NEWS BRIEFS

Mrs. Ruth Leach, postmaster at Dutch Mills and member of our Society, is promoting the erection of a historical marker at Dutch Mills, to commemorate the pioneer postoffice of Hermannsburg. Our Society will cooperate in securing funds. You'll get a notice in due time.

-- wchs --

We have just learned of the death of Mrs.Wm.G.Thompson of Tenafly, N.J., and Mrs.R.M.Buchanan of Wexford, Pa. Our deepest sympathies go to Bill Thompson, who had planned to visit the Prairie Grove battlefield where his grandfather fought 100 years ago. And to Raymond Buchanan, who visited our WCHS office last summer and brought us the ledgers of the Buchanan-Moore mill at Cane Hill. An article on these old account books will be coming up soon.

-- wchs --

Porter Rose, 260 E. Rowland St., Covina, Calif., has sent us a number of tombstone lists in Arkansas cemeteries that he recorded during a recent genealogical hunting expedition to Arkansas. These lists will be published in the next issue of The Arkansas Family Historian.

-- wchs --

Our Society has started a file on the Inks family of old Cane Hill. We are interested particularly in Captain S. Patton Inks and his brother Robert. They did not go with the Inks family to California in 1850 or 1851. They served under the Confederate flag during the War and were killed in an ambush slaying near Cane Hill. Most of our Inks information has come from Guy O. Inks, PO Box 48, Alamogordo, NewMexico, and his sister, Mrs. Karl Porr. We will welcome any information about the Inks family of Cane Hill of 100 years ago.

-- wchs --

As of this date, we are unable to make any definite announcement about an observance of the 100th anniversary of the battle of Fayetteville (April 18). President O.E.Williams appointed the following committee to play a program: Tom Feathers, Roy Scott, John A. Reed, P. R. Green, Robert Logan, Herbert A. Lewis and W.J.Lemke. We have invited the Hon. Earle Cabell, Mayor of Dallas, Texas to be our speaker on the Centennial occasion, and he has accepted. He is the grandson of General W.L.Cabell who led the Confederate troops in their charge down East Mountain to the bloody corner of today's College and Dickson. Watch for further announcements in the Secretary's newsletter.

-- wchs --

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Incorporated
Box 237, Fayetteville, Arkansas

O. E. Williams, president
Roy A. Scott, vice-president and treasurer
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